NE-WESTL

SUNDAY 08.21.16 II HOMETOWNLIFE.COM II PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Grant funds 6 new Wayne firefighters

LeAnne Rogers

Wayne has received a federal grant that will allow the city to hire six additional firefight

ers for two years.
The Staffing for Adequate
Fire and Emergency Response or SAFER grant for \$994,848 will allow the number of Wayne firefighters to increase from

the current 12 to 18. That should address overtime issues stemming from short staffing and concerns about Wayne being able to meet Mutual Aid

obligations.
"I am ecstatic that the city received this grant because it will allow us to properly staff our department and take the pressure off of our current personnel," said Wayne Mayor Susan Rowe.

Wayne operates a joint fire department with Westland and currently is using overtime to meet minimum staffing needs of four firefighters per shift. That resulted in a more than \$350,000 overtime tab last year which had initially been dramatically cut as part of cost cutting.

"The council funded the

overtime, so we had no problem with Mutual Aid," said Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy. "At 18 fire-fighters, we would have five or six firefighters at the (Wayne) station. The quicker we hire, the less we will have to spend on overtime."

In addition to cutting the overtime spending, Reddy said the higher staffing level will

allow firefighters to operate the ladder truck, something that can't be done currently.

Under the conditions of the grant, which comes through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the city has six months to accept the grant and hire the firefighters. There is no requirement that the city

See GRANT, Page A2

MPETITIVE EDGI



COURTESY SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Certified Executive Chef Shawn Loving, who has been on staff at Schoolcraft College since 2002, is off serving as executive chef for the U.S. Olympic basketball teams

Schoolcraft chef dishes up food for U.S. hoops teams

Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Since he's been on the cruise ship housing the U.S. men's and women's national basketball teams at the 2016 Olympics, Chef Shawn Loving has had to cook all manner of meals — steak, shrimp, sea-food and other local delicacies

But that's not what Jerry Colangelo, the director of USA Basketball, was looking for when he approached Loving

recently. What did Colangelo want? A peanut butter and jelly sandwich, with the peanut better nice and thick.

"Sometimes it'll be their mom's tuna salad, or a chicken sandwich," Loving said. "Sometimes when you're away from home for a long stretch of time, you want something that's comforting

Loving should know. In

See CHEF, Page A6



COURTESY SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE Chef Shawn Loving (left), here working with culinary student Leah Waldo, is in Rio for the 2016 Olympics.

Addressing high numbers of minority drowning victims

Julie Brown

Michelle Robinson, regional director of aquatics for the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, agrees a disproportionate number of African-American people drown annually compared to the white population.

'The African-American population is one of the higher ones for statistics of drowning," Robinson said. When she lived in Arizona, she saw a disproportionate number of

Hispanics drown.
"Definitely it's your minority populations that are going

to have that lack of resources available," she said. To address that, the region's YMCA offers Detroit Swims, a program done in partnership

with the Detroit Public Schools as well as the state Depart-ment of Natural Resources on Belle Isle.

It focuses on school districts with many free- or re-duced-price lunch children, busing them to pools for 30- to 45-minute swim classes, depending on age. "Detroit's the biggest one," she said of school districts now served. Southgate in the Downriver area

is also served currently. Swimsuits, towels, gog gles and caps are provided free of charge to eliminate obstacles to learning. Rob-inson, a Ferndale resident, noted donations of gently used swimsuits in all sizes, caps, goggles and monetary

See SWIMMING, Page A6

No hurry, no worry: Cruisin' Hines a time to chill

Diane Gale Andreassi

Thousands of classic cars will be on display during Cruisin' Hines Aug. 28, but unlike the cruise on Woodward, this parade of sweet wheels will only include vehicles at least 25 years old, it's in a serene park setting and squealing tires are banned.

The sixth annual Cruisin' Hines is 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Ann Arbor Trail to Ford Road.

"It's probably the biggest car show around of its type," said event promoter Don Nich-olson, of Don Nicholson Enter-prises, LLC. "The cruisers tell us it's the best cruise in the country.'

Stand out

"It's a great day to come to Hines Park and enjoy the rolling car show," Nicholson said.
"Families come down on bicycles and tour the park and see classics parked along the 7.5mile route."

The safety of spectators and drivers is the first priority, he said adding that burnouts, the practice of keeping a vehicle stationary and spinning its wheels, causing the tires to heat up and smoke, is prohib-

ited.
"If they do it, and they get
"ill get a ticket," caught, they will get a ticket," Nicholson said. "All the rules of the road are still enforced. As a promoter of the event we have zero tolerance for anything like that. This is a safe, fun, family-friendly event."

When it comes to comparing Cruisin' Hines with the Dream Cruise, Nicholson said: "We're not better, but not worse. As a cruiser, most people prefer the Hines Drive cruise, because only classic cars are allowed, and it's in a park setting where you aren't dealing with the backups. I would never want to compare myself to them, because we are the same, but different."

Wayne County Department of Public Services Director Beverly Watts called Cruisin' Hines "a unique classic car cruise because we require cars

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CRUISE

Continued from Page A1

to be at least 25 years old to participate. It's an opportunity for the entire family to experience an incredible collection of historic vehicles in their natural habitat — on the road."

Car buffs will see the Batmobile, Munsters Koach, Herbie, Mach 5 from Speed Racer, The Mutt Mobile van from the movie "Dumb and Dumber," and other car celeb-

Early starters

Some enthusiastic cruisers start lining up as early as 3:30 a.m. at Ford Road west of Evergreen. Only street-legal vehicles are allowed to cruise which leaves out mini bikes and golf carts. Spectator parking is at Merriman Hollow Park, Parr Park and Warren-dale Park. People riding bicycles are asked to use



SUBMITTED

"It's a great day to come to Hines Park and enjoy the rolling car show," organizer Don Nicholson said. "Families come down on bicycles and tour the park and see classics parked along the 7.5-mile route.

the bike path or follow the flow of traffic.

If you can't wait to get your cruising fix until the event, a kick-off cruise is planned at the Best Western Livonia from 5-9 p.m. Aug. 25 featuring food,

music and of course cars.
"It's an evening where we get together, and a lot

of cruisers come out to get more information about the cruise," Nicholson said.

There's more. A kick-off charity car show will be held at CrossPointe Community Church in

Wayne Aug. 27. "Last year, they fed over 2,000 people and

they had just under 600 cars at that show," Nicholson said. "All money goes to Cross-Pointe church."

Event sponsors and supporters are Wayne County Parks, WOMC Radio, MotorCities National Heritage Area, Pure Michigan, Detroit Visitors and Convention Bureau. Leake Auction, Gate-way Classics, UAW 1a, Best Western Livonia, Hagerty Insurance and Don Nicholson Enterprises, LLC.

Cruisin' Hines is an official Autopalooza event, which showcases car shows, cruises and other events and is supported by The MotorCities National Heritage Area, VisitDetroit.com and Pure Michigan, Go. to Autopalooza.org and CruisinHines.com for more information.

dandreassi@ hometownlife.com 734-432-5974



WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT Westland Police are attempting to identify this man wanted in connection for credit card fraud at several stores.

Man sought for credit card fraud

Westland Police have released photographs of a suspect sought in connection with multiple fraudulent credit card transactions.

The suspect used the victim's debit card in multiple Westland stores, spending over \$400 in total, police said. Anyone who can iden-

tify the suspect is asked to call the Westland Police Department at 734-722-9600 or 734-467-3250, or leave a message with the Westland Police Community Partnership Facebook Page.

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GRANT

Continued from Page A1

keep the firefighters once the grant funding expires.

Once the council accepts the grant, the goal is to test and have the firefighters hired in two months," said Reddy. "We will be able to cut overtime to next to nothing once we have hired the firefighters. The faster we hire, the move we will save on overtime and the more EMS revenue we will see. We'll have more bodies on the

The Wayne firefighters generated about \$600,000 in EMS revenues last fiscal year. Reddy said that money, like tax dollars, goes into the general fund and then is included as a revenue item for the fire depart-

"If it is budgeted at \$600,000 revenue and we bring in \$650,000, the fire

department doesn't get the extra \$50,000," he said.

In the wake of Wayne voters rejecting a propos-al to join a regional authority and levy 14 mills for public safety, councils in both Wayne and Westland have discussed the potential impact on not only but also the merger agreement. The interlocal governmental agree-ment between the two cities requires a mini-mum firefighter staffing which would not be met if budget cuts eliminated the current overtime and took staffing to two or three firefighters per

"The fire department merger has worked well so far but that could change," Westland Councilman Kevin Coleman commented at a recent council meeting. West-land Councilman Bill Johnson agreed that the merger might need to be

When the Wayne Council voted to approve additional overtime funding earlier this year, Reddy said there was no longer a concern about the merger — there would be minimum staffing at the station. That situation will be further stabilized, he said, with firefighters hired under the SAFER grant.

"It was brought up by a councilman about Wayne's finances. He didn't talk to me about it. I could have explained it," said Reddy. "We got a commitment on overtime and the problem was solved. We've been work-ing on this for months."

Wayne-Westland Fire-fighters Union President Mitch Tokarski said he had heard a bit of grumbling by Westland council members relating the potential cut in Wayne's staffing.

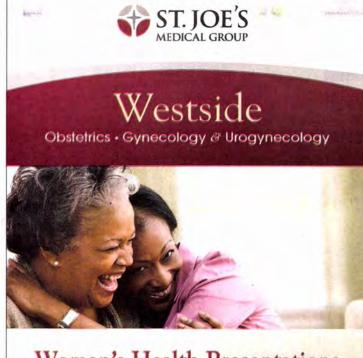
"Westland already feels like they are supplementing Wayne. They are only paying half for the fire chief (salary)," said Tokarski. "Westland provides a ton of other ser-

vices — the fire marshal and the EMS coordinator does all their quality assurance."

Wayne council mem-bers had a lengthy discussion at their meeting about allocating \$371,000 for overtime to maintain minimum staffing or to allocate \$50,000, Allocating the lower amount included reports from City Manager Lisa Noce rini on the spending and the potential for addition-

al overtime as needed. In either case, Wayne was spending the last of its cash reserves on firefighter overtime in the face of an annual \$1.5 million structural deficit. That means its already reduced spending is still about \$1.5 million higher than its annual revenues. Plante Moran, the city's financial director, projects the city will run out of money by the end of

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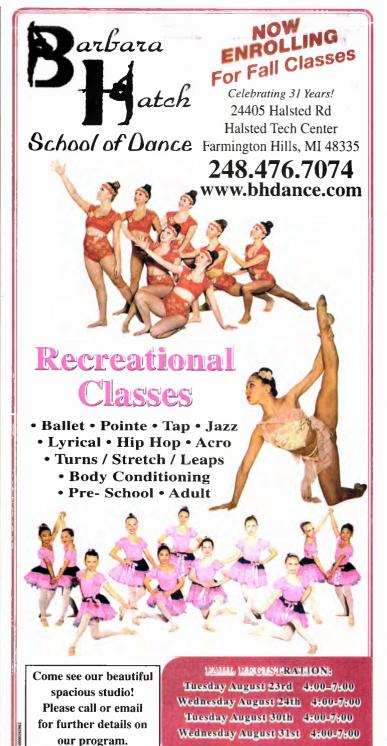
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ER nurse rescues twin teens from drowning

The perfect summer Up North getaway camping at a remote site in the Upper Peninsula on Lake Michigan with five of your best buddies, most of whom work with you. That's how this story starts for Matthew Whitstarts for Matthew Whit comb, R.N., of Westland, an emergency nurse at Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills.

As Whitcomb tried to teach his Golden Lab to sit in his kayak while on the beach, he and his friends took notice of a man swimming toward them from the open water on Lake Michigan. The man yelled some-thing like, "Hey, would you let me rent your kayak for \$20 because I have to rescue my sons out there."

Whitcomb jumped into his kayak while the man

jumped into the only other kayak Whitcomb's group brought camping. Whitcomb quickly took the lead because the other man had just spent the past 40 minutes swimming to shore.

All alone in open water, Whitcomb paddled on, feeling disoriented until he heard what sounded like someone yelling. He had to stop paddling in order to fig-ure out from what direc-tion he heard the voice. Then, he started paddling as hard as he could in that direction until he saw what looked like a head bobbing in the chop

py water. The boys were disoriented and swimming further away from shore. Their muscles were cramping from the hour that they'd been treading



Matthew Whitcomb of Westland, an R.N. at Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills, with the teens he rescued from drowning in Lake Michigan.

water after the family's inflated inner tube blew away from them.

There was no room in the kayak for passengers, so he told the first boy to grab and hold onto

the kayak's front handle. Then, with difficulty, Whitcomb paddled over to the boy's twin brother and had him grab hold of the watercraft's back handle.

With a physically exhausted teenager dan-gling from each end of the kayak, Whitcomb paddled them safely to shore within about 20

"I guess I was in the right place at the right time," said Whitcomb, who began working at Beaumont Hospital, Farmington Hills six years

All during this time, Whitcomb's friends stood on the beach with no way to help except to call 9-1-1. The emergency dispatcher in that area between the towns of Gould City and Naubinway alerted the U.S. Coast Guard.
"All I could think is

All I could think is that the rescuers would need to be rescued along with the boys," said Mi-chelle Kearns, R.N., who works with Whitcomb in the Emergency & Treu. the Emergency & Trauma Center at Beaumont, Farmington Hills.

Paramedics checked the boys' vital signs. Aside from being ex hausted, they were fine Their dad was so wiped out by the ordeal, that after thanking Whitcomb profusely, he returned to his campsite for a 20-

hour nap. Later that day, Whitcomb bumped into the twins at the campground. They came over to his campsite and hung out with his group for about their deep gratitude, the

boys presented Whit-comb with a buck knife that their grandfather had given to them when they were just 9 years

Whitcomb told the boys that he appreciated their knife very much and may actually use it for its intended purpose when he goes deer hunt-

ing.
In all the excitement, formal introductions were never made. The family will never know the name of the man who rescued their kids from certain death and Whitcomb will never know the names of the kids he

"It was a good ending, though," Whitcomb said. "What an awesome day even if I couldn't get my dog to sit still in the kay-

MDOT: Sewer line blockage caused Six Mile ramp flooding on I-275

David Veselenak Staff Writer

Flooding over an exit ramp off Interstate 275 in Livonia was caused by an error near the sewer drain some in recent years, according to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Diane Cross, a spokes-woman for MDOT, said the ramp on southbound I-275 to Six Mile in Livonia became flooded after the torrential rains fell earlier in the week and the sewer didn't accept the runoff. That caused the exit ramp to overflow with water and make it impassable.

'Somehow the sewer pipe was drilled into by some other conduit," she said. "Until we had the flood, we didn't know the sewer drain was blocked.'

The National Weather Service in White Lake Township said Livonia reported receiving 1.6

inches of rain over a 12-hour time span Monday and Tuesday.

Cross said it wasn't a

problem known to MDOT until the rainstorm, and was not sure when the blockage had taken place originally or what agency had done it. Cross said the issue may have stemmed from a utility company doing work in the area but did not know what agency may have been responsible. It was not a result of the construction currently taking place along I-275, Cross said. She said it should not

be an issue again after

crews made the repair.
"That was an isolated incident," Cross said.

She said the ramp was closed Tuesday and reopened during the day Wednesday after crews repaired the sewer line, allowing for drainage to take place and the free-way to dry up. The foot path along the freeway saw some water still run-



DAVID VESELENAK | STAFF WRITE

The ramp to Six Mile from southbound I-275 Wednesday morning. It was closed after flooding overtook the ramp for about 24 hours. The ramp reopened Wednesday.

ning off into the runoff ditches along the exit ramp Wednesday morn-

ing.
The ramp flooding appeared to be the biggest issue in Livonia to happen related to the recent weather. Brian Wilson, assistant superintendent of public works for the City of Livonia, said city crews were out taking care of a few downed trees and tree branches in city right-of-

ways. Those were only to only weather-related issues the city saw, he

said.
"They may have been weakened before then," he said. "A dozen of those incidents ... occurred overnight."

No effect on construction

Despite the large amount of rain in the area, Cross said construction hasn't seen much in the way of delays on the \$75 million project be-tween Five Mile and the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange.

Northbound lanes remain closed, as they July. Cross said the entire project is roughly 72 percent complete, with the deadline for the free-way to reopen taking way to reopen taking place sometime in mid-September.

Wixom-based Toebe Construction, the contractor doing the I-275 work, continues to move forward with the work Cross said, and hopes to

otentially reopen the freeway earlier. That would earn the company an incentive bonus depending on what day it wraps up. Beginning Sept. 2, the contractor can earn a \$150,000/day bonus once the freeway reopens.

Cross said it's possible the freeway could be reopen by Labor Day, but said that would only be if conditions line up proper-

ly.
"That would be all the stars lining up," she said.

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Donated calculators adding up to school success

Staff Writer

Brittany Lipcsik, 16, a Plymouth Salem High School junior, is a big Plymouth Salva-

"It's run very well and ef-fectively," the Plymouth Town-ship teen said of the Salvation Army here and worldwide. 'They do a great job here They reach a lot of people They've created such a big

name for themselves."
She's applying for the National Honor Society this fall, tional Honor Society uns ran, and was among volunteers Monday, Aug. 15, at the corps on Main Street helping distribute cases of donated calculators. "I just wanted to help out," explained Lipcsik as she unloaded boxes in the parking let that afternoon.

lot that afternoon.
Grateful teachers were glad to get their hands on the calculators. Joyce Napier teaches fourth grade at Canton's Eriks

son Elementary, and came with fifth-grade teacher colleague Jim Gutkowski of Eriksson. "We're excited," Napier said. "They're going to help us teach math and science. They (students) have to have the (students) have to have the skills to compete." She's seeing demographics shift and greater financial need in Plymouth-Canton.

"They just don't have the supplies," said Napier, who finds the Salvation Army calculators "a big help, a big

help."
Krista Piwko teaches second grade at Wildwood Ele-mentary in the Wayne-Westland district, which serves K-4 grades. "Amazing," Piwko said. "For all the kids who don't have the supplies for school, amazing. They're going to be able to use a tool they didn't have in the past. This is a great opportunity for our school."

Added Piwko of her entire school, "Every kid in our school will have a new calcula-tor to start the year." She had been sharing calculators among students in her class in

'Helping anybody'

Laurie Aren, the corps' director of family and commu-nity ministries, said, "Today, we serve the whole Southeast Michigan area," as she sur-veyed the operation and pitched in. "We're helping anybody who pulls in our driveway.

The 189,000 calculators came originally from Gerber Life Operations of Fremont, Michigan, then to Archway Marketing of Romulus in an apparent overstock. Aren used social media to get word out quickly to nonprofits and schools.

Envoy Jim Hulett of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army drove a navy blue van over to Plymouth to take two cases with 60 calculators in a box, about 2,400 total. "That's a lot of calculators," noted Hulett in loading up the van with volunteer help.

Wayne-Westland will use those for its after-school program, and also give calculators out 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Attwood Park in Wayne during a Family Day. That's mainly for summer day camp kids, Hulett explained, although others can show up,

His corps also plans to give out calculators at Christmas. It's common for Salvation



Envoy Jim Hulett of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army loads up a van with volunteer help for his corps. Wayne-Westland's Salvation Army got some 2,400 calculators

Army units to share resources. When we get large donations like this, we certainly try

to," Aren said. "One time, we got 900 pounds of frozen chickens. When we get stuff, we

Calculators, some 3,240, went Monday to Bay City, also serving Saginaw and Midland. Washtenaw County, the Dearborn Public Schools, schools in Southwest Detroit and others also stopped by Van Buren Public Schools planned a Tues day visit, Aren said, as did other Salvation Army units.

'We are so blessed'

Aren added, "These volun-teers are pretty doggone awesome. We put out the Bat-sig-nal Friday. This is awesome. When we put out the call for help, this happens all the time. We are so blessed."

Everett Caldwell, 16, a Ply-

mouth High School 10th-grader from Canton, said of his volun-teering, "Just helping people in need." His parents encouraged him "a little bit."

"I think it's good," said Cald-well who'd encourage other

well, who'd encourage other teens to volunteer. "It helps

teens to volunteer. "It helps
them with college as well."
Liam Murray, 13, of Canton
is a Liberty Middle School
seventh-grader who also
helped. He's applying for the
National Junior Honor Society.
Mom Trisha Murray said, "I
like him to do volunteer work.
had my sons work at the food

I had my sons work at the food pantry at Open Door Ministry. I like the kids to be involved."

Murray also has older sons, a 15-year-old 10th-grader at Canton Preparatory High School and a 17-year-old senior at Salem.

"I want my boys to learn appreciation and gratitude," Trisha Murray said. "I like to get my kids involved to give

icbrown@hometownlife.com

Friends of Wayne Library beer sampling rescheduled

LeAnne Rogers Staff Write

Book-loving beer aficionados will have to wait a bit longer for their night out at the Wayne Library.

A beer tasting hosted by the Friends of the Wayne Library,

originally scheduled for Friday, Aug. 19, has been post-poned to Friday, Sept. 30. That's due to a liquor licensing issue with Liberty Street Brewing Company of Plymouth which is providing the

Those who have purchased

tickets are urged to hold on to them because those tickets will be honored on Sept. 30. The delay allows procrastinators more time to buy tickets at the library circulation desk.
The cost is \$15 per person

with advanced purchase rec-ommended although there will

be some tickets available at the door. Seating is limited. All proceeds will benefit the

The event begins at 7 p.m.
Liberty Street Brewing Company of Plymouth will be providing three specialty beers to sample: Liberty Belle Blonde Lager: Waves of Grain Hefewiesen; and Red Glass Amber Ale. Pizza and snacks will be The library is located at

3737 S. Wayne Road between the two legs of Michigan Ave-nue. Call 734-721-7832 for more information.

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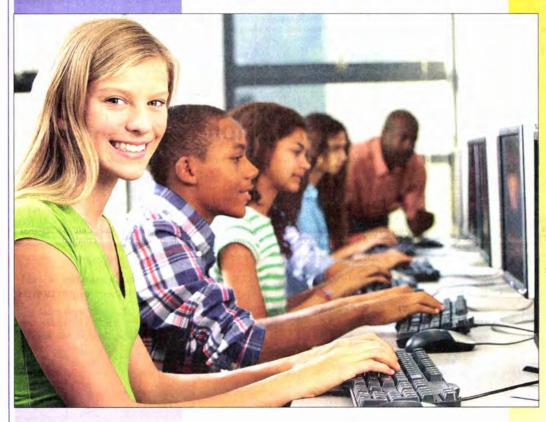
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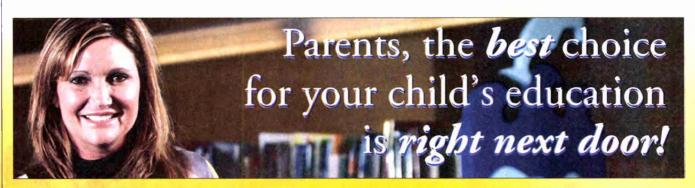
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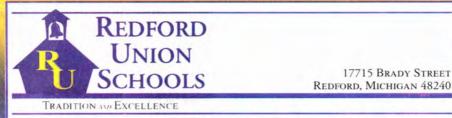




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CHEF

Continued from Page A1

addition to his usual position, chairing the culi-nary program at School-craft College in Livonia, Loving, a certified exec-utive chef, serves as the executive chef for USA Basketball International

He's been on staff at Schoolcraft College since 2002, and he got the Olympic opportunity through work he was doing with the Detroit Pistons during their championship run. Taking time off from the college is good for both chef and school.

'Great opportunity'

"It's a great opportuni ty for Chef Loving," said rank Ruggirello, Schoolcraft's executive director of Marketing & Advancement. "And it's great recognition for the kind of program we've built here at School-

This is his second Olympics (he was with the team in Beijing, Chi-

na, in 2008), and he's also been to world championships in Turkey (2010) and Madrid, Spain (2014). He's worked with many of the players — Carmelo Anthony and Kyrie Irving on the men's team and Sue Bird and Tamika Catchings for the women which makes the job a bit easier

"It makes it easier, it's fun to see them again, said Loving. "Half the battle is making (players) comfortable. They know I'm not looking for anything from them except to make sure they eat right, and that they're comfortable.

The teams are staying on a cruise ship off the coast of Rio, and Loving had to settle into a new kitchen with a new batch of culinary artists. He said that might be the

hardest part of the job.
"The biggest challenge is getting comfort-able in a new kitchen, building trust among a new brigade of culinar-ians," Loving said. "You try to build a kind of momentum that helps them understand what

you're trying to accom-

There's a lot to accomplish. Loving and the rest of the culinary staff are responsible for preand post-game meals, "lounge" food, snacks pretty much everything the Olympic athletes are going to eat.

There are some dietary challenges have some allergies, a couple of vegans, some pet peeves," Loving said — but coming up with a menu while cooking in international waters, using international food, doesn't present as much of a challenge as one might think

Loving said the players all like "pretty much everything" — steak, shrimp, seafood, vegeta-bles — and aren't that difficult to cook for.

'Flavor profiles'

"I take inventory of all their (likes) when I meet with them," Loving said. "I check their flavor profiles, and build from that. Contrary to popular belief, they have a palate that extends past Ameri-

cana."
While being an integral part of what the team accomplishes, Loving doesn't go to the games. If either team reaches the gold-medal game (and both advanced

out of pool play), Lov-ing will be there. Until then, he's minding the stove. And that's OK with

"Naturally, you feel prideful to know you're here and impacting people known around the world," Loving said. "It's also a pretty darn proud moment to be working in a kitchen where they don't really know you, and you're repre-senting a brand.

"For me, that brand is Schoolcraft College," Loving added.
"I don't think you can get more global than that."

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Westland says no to street solicitations

LeAnne Rogers

When the Westland City Council rejected their request for permission to sell Tootsie Rolls at the intersection of Wayne and Warren roads, it didn't come as a complete shock to the Knights of Columbus

The basis for the deni-al was a recent Michigan Attorney General opinion finding on-street solicitations were a violation of the state motor vehicle

"We actually had heard about it a week earlier. We went to the City Council meeting and weren't going to mention it," said Robert Schoenborn, Westland-based Knights of Columbus St. Damian Council 15204 grand knight. "This will have a huge impact on

Twice a year, the Knights of Columbus take to the intersection for their Tootsie Roll Drive. Raising about \$4,000 annually, Schoenborn said the money has been donated in recent years to Southfield-based Angel's Place, serving mentally impaired adults. New fundraisers will need to be found, he

said.
"The knights have done it forever. Our council started on the streets about three years ago or so," said Schoen-born. "The overall feeling is that this is good and bad. It's bad for the charities. It's good for safety factors with people texting and dri-ving,the traffic flow. It's probably a good thing.'

The street solicitations have been a long tradition relied on by a number of charities over the years. Safety is the issue, according to West land Deputy Police Chief Brian Miller. "The police depart-

ment had a couple of concerns. We had a number of pedestrian acci-dents in the last few years," he said. "Enough that we took proactive measures like a public service announcement We stepped up pedestri-an enforcement."

Having people in in-tersections soliciting for charities creates a haz-ard, Miller said.

The Westland Good-fellows, which had a tradition of selling news-papers on the street to achieve their goal of No Kid Without a Christmas, moved to other fundraising methods over a dec-

ade ago.
"It was fear for the safety of the volunteers. We looked at alternate fundraisers — we started doing poker rooms," said Westland Goodfellows co-president Heather Hatfield-Clear. "It's a challenge to figure out

other fundraisers."
These days, the Westland Goodfellows use a citywide solicitation letter to raise money and get a large amount of support through West-land Councilman Bill Johnson and colleagues at UAW Local 900 in Wayne. The proceeds from a large bowling fundraiser are donated, sometimes with addition-

al money from the local's golf outing. Along with the fund-raising, Hatfield-Clear said the other challenge with not having street solicitations is keeping the nonprofit visible and in the public eye.

"There have been people injured and killed. I'd feel horrible if a volunteer was injured or killed," said Hatfield-Clear. "Anyone's life is more important than fundraising."

Irogers@hometownlife.com Twitter: @LRogersObserver

SWIMMING

Continued from Page A1

gifts are always in need. The website is www.ymcadetroit.org.

Detroit Swims has existed about six years having served some 5,100 people as of the end of 2015. Its goal is 1,500 people served a year, Robinson said.
"I think it does make a

difference. We're definitely focusing on water safety," she said. She sees skill levels improve considerably.

The children learn to

save themselves, along with how to help a friend. "If one of their friends falls in, they know what to do without endangering themselves. We see a big improve-ment in the skills of the children," Robinson said. Instruction empha-

sizes not going in quickly after a friend in the water, reaching out instead with a flotation device or a pole to pull him or her

to safety Robinson graduated from Royal Oak Shrine High School in 1998 and swam there. She wasn't competing before high school, and has taught swimming from about age 15 on.

She'd earlier shared some basic safety tips applicable to all

The first big thing is to make sure there's somebody to watch the children," Robinson said. She also urges parents to use Coast Guard-ap-proved life jackets on their children, and never to rely on the arm "floa-

es" sold. Robinson, who earned a bachelor's degree in education from Eastern Michigan University, works with nine regional YMCAs that have pools as well as two summer camps with swimming. The YMCA focuses on water safety all year, with May National Water Safety Month. Parents often become more aware of safety concerns for their children in warming spring weather,

she said. The U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets will flip the child over, even if he's unconscious, to allow breathing, she noted. The jacket should be put on by following instructions, with the strap between the child's legs and the shoulders below the ears.

Sometimes, parents can rely too much on a lifeguard. The lifeguard has many people to watch, she noted, so he or she can't keep an eye directly on a child at all times.
"Any amount of water

can be dangerous in the wrong form," Robinson said. "It's being aware of water and making sure kids are safe. We don't want that to happen to anyone at anytime. she added of drownings in bathtubs or

If a child goes under water just briefly and surfaces, alert the lifeguard and, "Try to remain as calm as possible for the sake of your child," she said. "Try not to make the water a negative place for them."
That situation may

call for a better life jacket in the future, learning to "enjoy the water in a safe manner," she added.

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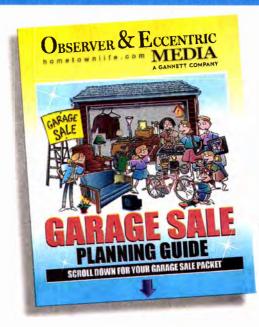
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especially tri-county residents age 62 and up who will enjoy free admission that day with a caregiver.

Detroit Zoo offers free admission Sept. 7 for those age 62 and up

Senior citizens living in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties are invited to enjoy a day at the Detroit Zoo on Senior Day, set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7. Seniors age 62 and

older and a caregiver will receive free admission, parking and rides on the Tauber Family Railroad.

Senior Day will also feature live music, tram tours, bingo, a scavenger hunt, a senior resource area and zookeeper talks highlighting some of the zoo's senior animal residents.

The zoo's newest sen-ior citizen is a 29-yearold female polar bear named Tundra, one of the oldest polar bears in captivity. She arrived in June from the Indian-apolis Zoo, which is permanently closing its polar bear exhibit

The fall Senior Day is one of two free days for tri-county seniors held annually at the Detroit Zoo in appreciation for voter approval of a ballot proposal to fund the

The Detroit Zoological Society - a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo is recognized as a leader in conservation, animal welfare and sustainabil

ity as well as providing sanctuary for animals in need of rescue, according to a press release

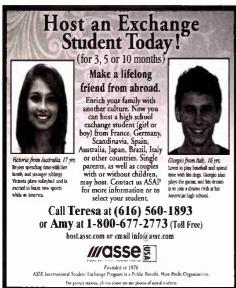
With an annual regional economic impact of more than \$100 million, the De-troit Zoo in Royal Oak is one of Michigan's largest paid family attractions, hosting more than 1.4 million visitors annually. Its 125 acres of awardwinning naturalistic habitats are home to 2,400 animals representing 255 species. In recognition of its environmental leadership, the Detroit Zoo received the top Green Award from the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, and was named Best-Managed Nonprofit by Crain's Detroit Business

The Belle Isle Na-ture Zoo sits on a 5-acre site surrounded by undisturbed forested wetlands on Belle Isle State Park in Detroit and pro-vides year-round educational, recreational and environmental conservation opportunities for the community. For more in-formation, call 248 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org



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in the storm? A little rain didn't bother these folks at The Salvation Army charity, fellowship and fun event.

On the road again: Red Shield promotes Salvation Army

Julie Brown Staff Writer

A little rain, or even more than a little, couldn't dampen enthusi-asm at The Ride for the Red Shield – Plymouth/ Downriver of The Salva-tion Army on Saturday, Aug 13 Aug. 13. Sandy Kollinger, Vol-

unteer and Special Events coordinator, said in an email: "Despite the rain we had a great day. We had six volunteers from the Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club that assisted with registration and breakfast in the and breakfast in the morning. The Wayne County Sheriff Motorcy-cle Unit had seven officers that assisted with our ride, and did a fantastic job helping get through intersections

"It rained up until it was time to depart the parking lot and held off until we were done with lunch. There were 17 motorcycles (not counting escort) and 23 riders/ passengers come out and join us for the ride."

Kollinger, a rider her-self, noted the ride started at The Salvation Army on Main Street in Plymouth and made the 23-mile trek to The Salvation Army Downriver/ Wyandotte office for a quick stop and then went another 10 miles to Bagger Dave's in Woodhaven for lunch.

Published: August 21, 2016



The Wayne County Sheriff Motorcycle Unit keeps things running smoothly at the event Saturday, Aug. 13.

This was the second year of The Ride for the Red Shield — Plymouth/

Downriver. "It's a nice, leisurely ride going from our building here Downriv-er," Kollinger had said. A partnership with the Christian Motorcycle

Association helps boost

the event.
"So it's not your typical rough-and-tough stereotype. We do have riders who are Christian and express their faith," Kollinger had said.

Sponsors for this year's ride include Thun-

der Valley Powersports of Plymouth, Kroger Plymouth on Ann Arbor Road and Bagger Dave's Both Dunkin Donuts and Einstein Bros. Bagels on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth helped with items for breakfast, Kollinger

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2201, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Pharmacy, 38409 Joy Road, Parcel #022-99-0009-003, Southwest Corner of Joy Road and Hix Road, Sameer Jariwala (Lami Taweel)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 7, 2016. Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on Saturday, the 27TH day of AUGUST, 2016, at North Redford Towing, 25215 Glendale, Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction date. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to the start of the auction. Check www.nrtowing.com for the current list.

1998	FORD	4D	1FAFP52U1WA198079	TAURUS	ARREST	1408663	1
2001	DODGE	SW	1B4GP25381B212236	CARAVAN	ARREST	1602297	2
2003	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNET16S236133475	TRAIL BLAZER	FIRE	1603173	3
2006	LINCOLN	4D	3LNHM261X6R642216	ZEPHYR	STOLEN/RECOVERED	1604220	4
2002	FORD	sw	1FMZU62E52ZC41716	EXPLORER	ACCIDENT	1604595	5
2001	SATURN	2D	1G8ZP12881Z284044	ION	ACCIDENT	1604600	6
2004	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NF52E44M533708	GRAND AM	ARREST	1604679	7
2002	FORD	2D	3FAFP11352R185028	ESCAPE	ARREST	1604700	8
2002	DODGE	4D	2B3HD46R72H140051	INTREPID	FLEE / ELUDE	1604741	9
1993	HONDA	4D	1HGC87656PA141566	ACCORD	ARREST	1604786	10
1996	FORD	PU	1FTCR11U6TPB33240	RANGER	ARREST	1604885	11
2003	HYUNDAI	4D	KMHWF35H93A902732	SONATA	ACCIDENT	1604899	12
2005	BUICK	4D	1G4HP52K85U179331	LESABRE	ABANDONED	1604919	13
1994	CHEVROLET	PU	2GCEC19Z5R1251182	SILVERADO	HAZARD	1604944	14
2004	FORD	SW	1FTRE14W24HA30301	ECONOLINE	ARREST	1604978	15
2003	FORD	4D	1FAFP53U03G251572	TAURUS	ABANDONED	1605011	16
2003	FORD	4D	1FAFP53U23A137379	TAURUS	HAZARD	1605036	17
2009	FORD	4D	3FAHP07109R219895	FUSION	ACCIDENT	1605078	18
2008	FORD	4D	1FAHP35N18W184450	FOCUS	ARREST	1605189	20
2001	FORD	4D	1FAHP36341W172781	FOCUS	ACCIDENT	1605195	21
2004	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WX12K549416415	MONTE CARLO	ARREST	1605198	22
2007	SATURN	2D	1G8AN15F57Z158200	ION	ACCIDENT	TITLE	23
2004	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WF52E949311789	IMPALA	ACCIDENT	TITLE	24
2010	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WB5EK3A1176244	IMPALA	ACCIDENT	TITLE	25
Publisher	d: August 21, 2016					LO-00002933	319 4x5

Meet the girls of Dream Cruise

LOCAL NEWS

Jay Grossman

It's Thursday night in Birmingham, two days before the Woodward Dream Cruise, and Denielle Armstrong pulls her 1962 Chrysler 300 Sport into the entrance of Peabody's.

"I've been cruising Woodward my whole life," she said. "I grew up near Square Lake and Telegraph. My parents used to put is now left." pajamas, make a bowl of popcorn and throw us in the back seat."

For every Fonzie, there's a Laverne and a Shirley. For every Wolfman Jack, there's a Mus-tang Sally. These are the girls of Dream Cruise

Kate Harrington, 22 of Birmingham, is strolling about near Maple and Woodward. The cor ner looks like a giant race track of people and cars. Vendors are hawking souvenirs ... the Hunter House has a Beatles tribute band the road is a paradise of chrome and metal and really loud mufflers.

Harrington, who just graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in English and American Culture, is soaking it all in.

"It's a great environ-ment," she said. "You have the cars, the crowd, lots of beer and cigarettes — and you have to buy a Dream Cruise T-shirt. I feel like every Dream Cruise girl has to have a Dream Cruise T-shirt."

Lauren Stein of Birmingham hasn't missed a single Dream Cruise since the event kicked off in 1995. She was walking around Thursday with her sister, Hei-di Steinman, and their

"There's nothing like this in the country," Irish said. "It's amazing every single year to have the people who made the cars watch the cars. And cars watch the cars. And it's just such an awesome

family experience."
Shantique Morrow, 21, of Detroit, can imagine what it's like to cruise around in a classic con-

vertible.
"You have the wind in your hair, you look beautiful and you're in your dream car," she said. "You look like Barbie ... and, of course, you have to enjoy yourself and party. A party makes the Dream Cruise."

Mom races cars

Armstrong's two-door coupe is nicknamed "the Beautiful Brute" from its combination of elegance and speed. Her parents used to drag-



Dream Cruise girls: Heather Irish (left), with sisters Lauren Stein and Heidi Steinman, came out with their families Thursday to watch the cars



DAVID BLOOM

"It's a great environment," Kate Harrington, 22, said of the Dream Cruise, "You have the cars, the crowd, lots of beer and cigarettes - and you have to buy a Dream Cruise T-shirt.



"Of course you have to enjoy yourself and party. A party makes the Dream Cruise," said Shantique Morrow, 21, of Detroit.



Denielle Armstrong looks out from her 1962 Chrysler 300 Sport. The two-door coupe is nicknamed "The Beautiful Brute."

race in it.
"They ordered it new and raced it over all over ... New York, Ohio, Michigan and Canada," she said. "My mom and dad both raced it. This was my mother's baby ... she restored it after we lost my dad."

Armstrong said her parents swapped out engines and raced with a 426 Hemi under the

hood. Her mom, Anne Armstrong, was a fierce

competitor 'My mom was nine months pregnant with me and drag racing on a Sunday," Armstrong said. "I was born that Tuesday." She remembers back in the day when CKIW

in the day when CKLW-AM radio used to announce "grudge match-es" between the Beautiful Brute, Corvettes, Chevys and the other big block engines.

"My parents won over 300 trophies in over 300 races with this car," she

Her dad, Jack Armstrong, died in 1998, the same day he got the Chrysler back from a paint shop. Anne passed

away in 2013. Now, it's Denielle's

turn to take the wheel.
"Every day I drive
this car, I feel their
presence," she said,
before waving goodbye and veering back
into the slow rowing. into the slow-moving parade of muscle and memories

jgrossman@ hometownlife.com 586-826-7030 Twitter: @BhmEccentric

MOD Pizza gives boost to Livonia Schools Aug. 22-23

MOD Pizza, an individual artisan style pizzeria, will partner with the Livonia Public Schools (LPS) Education Foundation for a back-to-school benefit Aug.22-23 from 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. at i o.m. at 11 Livonia MOD Pizza, 13229

Middlebelt Road. TSFR Brand Leader of MOD Pizza Jake Schostak made

the announcement. As part of the benefit, MOD Pizza will donate 10 percent of all guests' food s to the LPS Educa tion Foundation. Guests

will also be able to pur-chase MOD-branded back-to-school kits, which include notebooks, pencils and folders, for \$5. For every kit sold, \$3 will be donated back to the tion to further aid the

organization in its mission to provide financial support to the district for innovative programs and

"MOD was built on the vision of creating in-spiring pizzas that bring people together to 'Spread MODness,' initiating a constant ripple effect of positivity

throughout the com-munity," Schostak said. "The LPS Education Foundation has been a champion for local residents, delivering creative initiatives to ning run and exciting. We are proud to partner with them to kick off the new school year on a great note.'

COMMUNITY **EVENTS**

75th birthday party

The Livonia Fire Department is inviting residents to its 75th birthday celebration 4-7 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 25, in
Rotary Park (Six Mile
and Hubbard) in Livonia.

The event will feature games for kids, food and drinks, fire department giveaways, an obstacle course, a fire truck display and raffle drawings. Fire department officials are also urging visitors to bring bathing suits for fire hose fun.

Nerd Night

The Garden City Public Library announced Gabriel Kleinert, local writer and gaming enthu-siast, will be visiting at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22, to discuss the Survival Horror video game "Si-lent Hill 2." He will delve into the game's history, explain the story and the gameplay, and also discuss the psychological and metaphorical interpretations of the game's themes.
Admission to the pro-

gram is free. The perfect gaming food (Mountain Dew and Doritos) will be provided. To reserve a seat, call the Garden City Public Library at 734-793-1830.

Flu shots

Flu shots are coming to the Maplewood Com-munity Center, 31735 Maplewood in Garden

City.
Walgreens will be
on-site 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sept. 28 and Oct. 26. Free
shots will be available for those without health insurance courtesy of Walgreens. If you don't have health insurance and think you may qualify for the no cost Healthy Michigan Plan
OR Qualified Health Plan
(QHP) on the Health
Insurance Marketplace, be sure to stop in the Community Resources Office after you get your flu shot. Trained health insurance application assistors are available to help from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Monday-Friday (evening and weekend hours are available by appointment).
For more information,

call The Senior Department at 734-793-1870 or The Community Resources Department at 734-793-1857.

Neighbors and friends

Livonia Neighbors and Friends, a Women's Club in Livonia, will kick off another year of fun and friendship with an ice cream social at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Em-manuel Lutheran Church on 34567 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. New

members are welcome. Livonia Neighbors and Friends is open to women who live/work in Livonia and its surrounding com-munities. General meetings are held on the sec-ond Tuesday of every month, September through May at 7 p.m. Special activity groups continue to meet y round. For more information, visit http://livonia neighborsand friends.tripod.com

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN LPD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER UPGRADE

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, September 13th, 2016 at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the Livonia Police Department in the Emergency Operations Center, 15050 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan at 12 P.M. on Tuesday, August 30th, 2016. Bids will not be accepted from those firms who do not

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the bid must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed bids in response to this request

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN LPD Emergency Operations Center Upgrade, name of vendor and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154. No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Livonia Police Dept., EOC Published: August 21, 2016

Dennis K. Wright Mayor

Seniors compete in American House Olympics

Residents of American House Senior Living Communities enjoyed the first annual Senior Olympics last week, with events located through-out Wayne County at five hosting communities with more than 75 partic-

The games were introduced by American House Dearborn Heights Life Enrichment Direc-tor Elizabeth Starr, who thought a little healthy competition between residents, especially during the Rio 2016 games, might result in an opportunity for new friendships to form across communities

Seniors from Riverview, Southgate, Taylor, Westland, Livonia and Ypsilanti donned their custom American House Olympic T-shirts, boarded their community buses and spread out over Wayne County to participate in a number of events that tested both agility and intellect.

"A competitive spirit, fun events and lots of laughter were the keys to success for the American House Olympics," Starr

» American House First Annual Wayne County Senior Olympics hosted 10 events includ-ing, Football Toss, Nintendo Wii Bowling and

Photography
» More than 75 community residents partici-pated during the week-long games » Special guest, West-land Mayor William Wild,

sat on the panel of judges for the Crafts/Photography events.

The American House Senior Olympics ran parallel to the Rio 2016



Contestant Earl B., with Westland Mayor William Wild.

games and included the American House torch lighting, an awards ceremony and an ice cream

Event organizers anticipate the American

House Senior Olympics in Wayne County will spread to sister communities in Oakland and Macomb Counties next

year.
For more information

about Life Enrichment programs at American House Senior Living Communities, go to hamericanhouse.com/ amenities-services

Birmingham resident gets a squeeze out of Paul McCartney

Jay Grossman

Birmingham resident Terry Matlen is probably one of the few Beatles fans on the planet who patted Paul McCartney on the butt.

And she did it twice,

before thousands of

screaming fans.

"I'm still on cloud nine," Matlen said. "It's been my lifelong dream to actually meet him in person."

The former Beatle

was performing Monday before a sold-out audi-ence at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. Matlen was sitting in the third row and holding a sign that read: "Can I Touch Your Bass?" Only the letter "B" was crossed

out.
Not only did McCart ney read her sign out loud to the audience, but later invited her onstage.

"Now, which is it to be?" McCartney asked. "Is it the bass or the ass?"

She first patted him on the butt, then reached over and touched his

"My wife is going to kill me!" McCartney joked with the audience. He then asked Matlen for her name and gave her a high bug She spuel in a big hug. She snuck in a second pat before leav-

ing the stage.

"I'm still flying here," she said Wednesday. "I didn't realize I was on the big video screen, and after the concert all these people came up to me."

Matlen attended the concert by herself, while her husband went fishing for the afternoon. She later woke him in their



It was the moment of a lifetime for Birmingham resident Terry Matlen after Paul McCartney invited her onstage Monday.

hotel room and told him what happened. "He's the greatest husband in the world," she said. "I'm an amateur musician and a few years ago he bought me a vin ago he bought me a vin-tage Hofner bass like

She's a lifelong Beatles fan and has traveled around over the years to see McCartney perform in different arenas around the Midwest

"I've been a Beatles fan since I was 10," she said. "It's kind of a sad story, but around the time they played on the Ed Sullivan show, my dad died suddenly as a young man ... so the Beatles got me through a really rough patch without my father."

So, was it a bit awkward patting one of the

most famous people in the world on the butt? "Hey," she said. "Paul McCartney is giving me permission to touch his butt, so I'm touching his

jgrossman@hometownlife.com 586-826-7030 Twitter: @BhmEccentric

Attorney helms Michigan Defense Trial Counsel

Hilary A. Ballentine an appellate attorney at Plunkett Cooney, one of the Midwest's oldest and largest law firms, was recently elected president of the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (MDTC), a leading defense bar organization. Ballentine, who was

elected to the executive post during the MDTC's annual meeting at the Atheneum Hotel in downtown Detroit, will serve a one-year term as presi-

"We're pleased that the MDTC has recog-nized Hilary's leadership skills and excellence as a defense lawyer," said Mary Massaron, who serves as Plunkett Cooney's Appellate Law Practice Group Leader. "The MDTC is a terrific organization, and Hilary will do a great job in helping to achieve the group's goals and mis-



Ballentine

The MDTC was estab-lished in 1979 to enhance and promote the state's defense bar. The organization was founded on the principle of exchanging views in order to advance the interests of defense attorneys. Its members are dedicated to representing individ-uals and corporations in civil litigation.

Ballentine is a member of the MDTC's Legal Excellence Awards Committee, and she is a past chair of the organiza-tion's Sponsorship Com-mittee. Ballentine served as a member of the MDTC's Board of Directors in 2011 and co-chaired its Appellate and Amicus Committee in 2008. In 2012, she was named the MDTC's Volunteer of the Year.

A member of Plunkett Cooney's Bloomfield Hills office, Ballentine concentrates her practice exclusively in the area of appellate law. Her practice includes appellate expertise to such substantive legal areas as Constitutional law, municipal law, con-struction liability, medical liability and general civil litigation, among

Ballentine is a 2006 magna cum laude graduate from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and a 2003 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where she earned her undergraduate degree with high distinction. She is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts in Michigan, as well as in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and in the U.S. Supreme Court.

In addition to her involvement with the MDTC, Ballentine is a member of the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Planning Committee, the State Bar of Michigan and the DRI – The Voice

of the Defense Bar.
Plunkett Cooney is one
of the few Midwest law
firms with a dedicated team of appellate at-torneys. The firm's appellate lawyers frequent-ly handle cutting-edge appeals involving issues

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of first impression, and they have been involved in many of Michigan's landmark appellate decisions. They also provide a range of specialized services, including advice and counsel during ongoing trials, to optimally position cases for appeal, if necessary

Established in 1913 Plunkett Cooney employs more than 140 attorneys in its offices, which are located in nine Michigan cities; Columbus, Ohio; and Indianapolis, Indiana. The firm has ana. The firm has achieved the highest rating (AV) awarded by Martindale-Hubbell, an international directory of law firms, and is listed among the U.S. News – Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms" in 2016. Plunkett Cooney has also received several awards naming the firm as a top place to work within the legal industry.



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SECTION B (WGRL)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

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WOMEN'S GOLF

Shepler crowned O&E links champ

Livonia native and former Madonna University women's golf standout Jordyn Shepler mastered Whispering Willows and outlasted a small but talented field to win the 2016 Observer & Eccentric Women's Open on July 30. Shepler finished atop the

Madonna grad fires 81 to edge Weiss and Payne

13-player Championship Flight standings by firing a stellar round of 81, which was three strokes better than co-runners up Shelly Weiss of Southfield and recent Livonia Franklin graduate Kendall Payne, who is ready to embark on a collegiate career at the University of Detroit Mercy. Ypsilanti's Cindy Hill was in

the hunt throughout the day, too, before finished five shots back at 86.

Shepler's performance earned her a \$120 gift certificate and an eye-catching trophy. Weiss won a \$90 gift card. Payne's tournament-low net score of 73 was good for a \$70 gift certificate. Hill's adjusted total of 74 won her a \$50 gift

Sonia Pysh, of Henrico, Va., was the first flight champion with a score of 94. Joan Cleland of Waterford was second at 95.

See GOLF, Page B4

Churchill golf

Livonia Churchill's girls golf team opened its sea-son Thursday with an 11thplace showing at the 21-team Highest Honors Girls Golf Tournament at Huron Meadows.

Led by Paige Peterson's 18-hole score of 93, the Chargers finished with a 401 total. Detroit Country Day placed first, edging Plymouth by four shots. Salem's Darby Scott was the tournament med-

was the tournament med-alist with an even-par 71.
"All in all, I was happy with our showing," Chur-chill head coach Paul Wor-ley said. "The girls had some butterflies in those opening holes, but settled down. My goal going in was to break 400, so we came very close. It was a good start to a promising

season."

In addition to Peterson, scoring for Churchill were Kelsie Nowicki (100), Maccey Reese (101) and Kayla Ellis (107). Jenny Rousseau was right behind Ellis with a 110.

Holes-in-one

A pair of golfers recent-ly drilled their tee shots into the cup at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf

On Aug. 14, Nicholas J. Engels aced the 135-yard seventh hole using a 9 iron. Engels, who has been playing golf for 35 years, shot an 18-hole score of 80. It was the first ace for the 53-year-old.

On Aug. 4, Livonia resident John Waterworth registered his third career ace on the 144-yard par 3 17th hole. The 66-year-old Waterworth used a 7-iron and shot an 82 for 18 holes. He has been golfing for

Madonna softball **Prospect Day**

Madonna University

Madonna University softball announced Thursday it will hold a Prospect Day at University Field on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Prospect Day is open to any high school sophomore, junior or senior as well as any eligible college-transfer studentathletes.

the softball portion of Prospect Day will consist of fielding, hitting and other fundamental drills. Prospective student-athletes will also get a chance to meet the 2016-17 Madonna University softball team and while receiving a wealth of information from University staff regarding admissions, potential campus visits and tours.



Local high school athletic coaches are strongly encouraged to report the results of their team's contests - win or lose, home or on the road . Observer sports editor Ed Wright, who can be reached at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com

The deadline for Thursday editions is Tuesday at 10 p.m. The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 10 p.m.



Livonia Churchill junior-to-be Katherine Ristola is fired up to play her first year of varsity football for the Chargers following one season each on the freshman and junior-varsity squads.

Churchill's Ristola proves she belongs on gridiron (and pitch)

Ed Wright

The Ristola family's football legacy at Livonia Churchill appeared as if it would be for-ever coated with heartbreak after Patrick and Margaret Ristola's only son, Jonathan, suffered a pair of season-end ing injuries prior to both his junior and senior seasons.

And then along came youngest daughter Katherine — No. 43 in your Churchill football program and No. 1 on many

people's most-admired lists. Entering her junior year at Churchill, Katherine Ristola who also excels in soccer, both

"I'll admit it: The first day of two-a-days my freshman year I thought to myself, 'What am I getting myself into?" **KATHERINE RISTOLA**

for Churchill and for AC Milan is primed to begin her first season on the Chargers' varsity football team after competing on the freshman and junior-varsity squads the previous two falls.

A strong-legged kicker and sure-handed receiver, her motivation for going against

"I really wanted to do this for my brother; he's my ulti-mate motivator," Ristola said. "When he got hurt both of the years he was supposed to be on varsity, I saw how much his team loved him and cared for him, and I thought to myself, 'I want to be apart of a sports

family like that'. Even though he couldn't play, coach Flip (Bill DeFillip-po) and the rest of the team

See RISTOLA, Page B4



ED WRIGHT

Churchill's varsity girls soccer team this past spring



Franklin's Matt Conley pushes the ball upfield during Thursday's scrimmage at Dearborn Edsel Ford. PREP SOCCER PREVIEW

Franklin primed for 'Bona'-fide encore

Ed Wright

Nine months after the conclusion of its most electrifying season in decades, the Livonia Franklin boys soccer team returned to the pitch Thursday afternoon with a new coach, but the same crisp mechanics it displayed last fall

Under the watchful eye of Mike Bona, who takes the controls from Vic Rodopoulos, the New coach leads reloaded Patriots

Patriots looked strong and sharp throughout a scrimmage at Dearborn Edsel Ford.

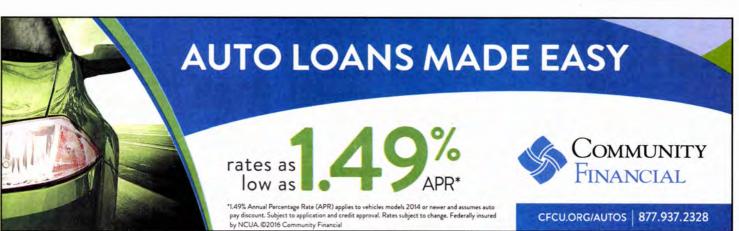
Looking to piece together an encore to match their run to the Division 2 quarterfinals in 2015, the Patriots yielded only a handful of dangerous attacks to the Thunderbirds while peppering their hosts' 18-vard

box with a relentless level of

With his team's seasonopener looming Monday against Livonia Stevenson Bona is fired up about the Pa-

triots' potential.
"I like our overall balance and we are returning our entire back line except for one player, so I'm excited," said Bona, a 1995 Franklin grad and

See PATRIOTS, Page B4



PREP FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Dynamic nucleus makes RU a threat

Trio of linebackers set to lead Panthers

Ed Wright

Redford Union's football opponents would be wise not to take anything for "Grant"-ed when they line up against

With the return of super-sophomore (now junior) Isaac Grant and a core of proven performers, the Panthers will

be anything but a pushover this fall.
Grant was a two-way beast last season, galloping for over 800 yards in
RU's run-heavy wing-T offense, while

providing sledgehammer-ish tackling skills as a linebacker.

He also excels in the character department, head coach Miles Tomasaitis

raved.
"Not only was Isaac our leading rusher and co-MVP last year, he is a great young man," Tomasaitis said.
"He's one of the hardest-working players on our team and is usually the last one left in the weight room.



Redford Union junior running back/linebacker Isaac Grant (right) is a speed/power dynamo for the Panthers

"Isaac runs tough inside and has good enough speed to break some long runs. I know I would hate to have to tackle him in the open field." Joining Grant in the Panthers' three-

running-back backfield will be fouryear varsity player Marquise Hatha-way and first-year senior starter Tre-

vontea Owens. At 6-foot-1, 210 pounds, Hathaway is a handful to bring down—and his 700-plus rushing yards last season reflect that. He was the team's leading scorer last year and shared MVP honors with

Tomasaitis heaped praise on Owens

for the improvement he's made over the past couple of seasons. "The difference he's made is re-markable," Tomasaitis said. "Trevontea is a great example of what hard work can do for a kid."

Junior and returning starter Tavian Groves-Knox and sophomore Carl Ware are battling for the first-string signal-caller berth.

"Carl has a strong arm and he had a good summer in the weight room," Tomasaitis revealed. "Tavian has a better grasp of the offense, obviously, as he started eight of nine games last year. He's getting better at adjusting to game speed."

The Panthers' offensive line is gigantic and inexperienced. Sophomore 270) will anchor the blocking contingent. He'll be flanked by guards (and win brothers) Brand and Blake Harts-

Battling for starting tackle spots are Trevon Williams, Derion Gould and Zach Johnson.

In the mix at tight end are Talil Groves (the older brother of Tavian), Ryan Tate, Josh Smith and Cameron

The defensive line will include a combination of the offensive linemen, while Grant, Hathaway and Owens will give the Panthers an athletic trio of linebackers. Blake Hartsfield will also see time at linebacker.

Seniors Justin Blunt-Bell and Josh Hambright will start at cornerback, with Kenny Perry challenging for a role in the secondary.

Holding down the safety spots will be Wells and Talil Grant.

Smith gives the Panthers one of the

most dangerous punters in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Chargers ready to tackle challenging schedule

More experienced team looks for return to playoffs

Ed Wright

Oh, what a difference a year can

Roughly 365 days after he addressed the bulk of his young-ish 2015 team with a "Welcome to the varsity" message, Livonia Churchill head coach Bill DeFillippo can confidently say to a high-percentage of this year's contingent, "Welcome back to the varsity."

Although their starting lineup on both sides of the line of scrimmage was populated by several first-year players, the 2015 Chargers scrapped and clawed their way to a 5-4 record and a playoff berth.

Churchill's postseason run was short-lived due to a fireworks-filled 42-35 opening-round loss to Jackson, but it set the tone for what has the potential to be a success-saturated

"We had some great moments, some good moments and some pretty ugly moments last year," DeFillippo said. "But we were pretty young in a lot of

areas.
"This season, those young players have transitioned into experienced players. We'll start nine seniors on offense and nine or 10 on defense, so we're not as inexperienced as last year Are linemen are pretty young on both sides of the ball, but most of our skillposition guys saw a lot of time last

The final season of the 24-team Kensington Lakes Activities Associa-tion will provide the Chargers with the usual high-level test that they've come

to expect.
"We have four playoff teams in our division and six or seven playoff teams on our schedule, but that's the way it is for most of the teams in our division," DeFillippo said. "Our first three games will all be tough with Monroe, Stevenson and Howell. You have to be ready to play every week or you're going to find yourself in a hole."

Steering the Chargers' spread offense will be senior quarterback Evan Cummins (6-foot-3, 210 pounds), who displayed a phenomenal ability to both run and pass last season.

"Evan runs a 4.7 (second) 40, so he has speed to go along with his great on our schedule, but that's the way it is

arm talent," DeFillippo said. "He had a great summer with 7-on-7's and it always helps to have a year under belt when it comes to reading defenses."



Livonia Churchill football players churn out a series of practice-ending sprints Friday afternoon.

Cummins will be backed up by sophomore southpaw Drew Alsobrooks (6-1, 185), who will also handle most of the

"Depth" is the operative word when it comes to the Chargers stable of running backs. Senior Omar Morris (5-9, 180) will carry much of the load, how-ever, juniors Ja'Vante Van Buren and Tyrece Williams, along with sopho-more Darrell Mason will also get their

"Omar played a lot last year as a junior and he played well," DeFillippo said. "He runs hard, has good vision and he can catch the ball well coming out of the backfield.

"Javante is 6-3, 210, so he gives us a different look back there. Tyrece is smaller and shiftier, so he gives us a

Mason is a transfer from Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

The Chargers' receiving corps is as talented as any group in the area

thanks to the return of senior speed-

thanks to the Fetulin of senior speci-sters Mike Hill and Jamal Allen. The 6-foot, 185-pound Allen is the fastest player DeFillippo has ever coached after having posted a scorching 40-yard dash time of 4.35 seconds earlier this month.

"Mike is a great athlete and an outstanding route-runner," DeFillippo raved. "Jamal is a play-maker, both on offense and defense. He can flat-out run and he's smart too." run and he's smart, too." Senior Logan Freier (6-foot, 200) is

unique in that he can play both tight end and wide out with equal effective

Churchill's offensive line has been remodeled due to graduation losses, but it is still inhabited by very large human beings

240), who DeFillippo named as a team leader, will be flanked by guards Logan Evanoff (5-11, 260) and Mason Heilman (6-1, 270). The starting tackles will be juniors Hunter Templin and Joe

Neimeister.

The defensive line is stout thanks to the presence of ends Van Buren and Alex Zoltowski, and tackles Brennan Mikel (5-10, 250) and senior Chris Sa-

Freier and Yul Snell have secured starting linebacker spots. Ian Kesteloot and Mike Parrish are also in the

Allen and Hill give the Chargers a pair of lock-down corners while Jacob Chantres and Jake Osen will provide the last line of defense from their safety positions. Dameko Perry and Mason are ex-

pected to see time at the all-important "spur" position, which is a hybrid linebacker-safety spot.

home against Monroe.

ewright@hometownlife.com

Hurricane warning!

The Livingston Hurricanes 18U travel baseball team outlasted 45 other teams to capture the Wolverine-Buckeye World Series held July 20-24. The 'Canes bounced back from a 5-4 opening-game pool-play setback to Team Mizuno by registering four straight wins: 2-1 against the Capitol Kings Blue; 17-0 against the FCA Tigers, 13-2 over the Oshawa Legionaries and 17-0 over win-or-go-home bracket play, the Hurricanes ousted Triple Crown Royals, 5-2, and the Ontario Royals, 7-3, before out-slugging the Diamondbacks Elite, 12-7, in the title clash. Pictured are (front row from left)



Michael Flaischans (Canton), Gary Turnbull (Hartland), (middle row from left) John Shields (Howell), Spencer Ford (Howell), Bryan Rendell (Howell), Brandon Leon (Howell), Jake Giacobbi (Franklin), (top row from left) Ian Hoogerhyde (Beal City), coach Gary Turnbull, John Baker (Hartland), Max Swan (Clare), coach Gregg Merians, Kendall Flaugher (Beal City), Devin Hager (Walled Lake Northern) and coach Mike Flaischans.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALI Thursday, Aug. 25 Lakeland at John Glenn, 7 p.m. Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Wayne at Ecorse, 7 p.m. Cabrini at RU, 7 p.m.

Cabrini at RU, 7 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 26
N.D. Prep at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
Monroe at Churchill 7 p.m.
Monroe at Churchill 7 p.m.
Monroe at Churchill 7 p.m.
PREP VOLLEYBALL
Tuesday, Aug. 23
John Clenn at Maraudet Invite, 8:30 a.m.
Saturday, Aug. 27
Stevenson at Carlton Airport Invite, 8:30 a.m.
Thurston and Clarenceville at Melvindale 7 ourse. 8:30 a.m.
Thurston and Clarenceville at Melvindale 7 ourse.

Melvindale Tourney, 8:30 a.m. BOYS SOCCER

BOYS SOCCER Monday, Aug. 22 Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Summit Academy at RU, 6 p.m. Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m. Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 23
Garden City at John Gienn, 7 p.m.
Stockwell Prep at HVL, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Luth. NW, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 24
Stevenson vs. Saline, 7 p.m.
Churchill at W.L. Central, 7 p.m. Stevenson 3. Steve

PREP CROSS COUNTRY Friday, Aug. 26 John Glenn at End of Summer Classic, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27 Ladywood at Mich. Catholic Invite, 9 a.m. Franklin at S. Lyon Invite, 9:30 a.m. GIRLS GOLF

Monday, Aug. 22 Ladywood at Marian Invite, 8 a.m. Stevenson, Churchill at Hartland Invite, Tuesday, Aug. 23

Churchill at Canton, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 24
Livonia City Meet at Idyl Wyld, 9 a.m.
Ladywood at Everest Collegiate, 2 p.m.

Turkady, Aug. 25
Stevenson at Salem, 1 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

Monday, Aug. 22
Lincoln at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

Lincoln at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23 Garden City at John Glenn, 4 p.m. Stevenson vs. Plymouth, 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25 Livonia City Meet, 9 a.m. RU at Ferndale, 4 p.m. John Glenn at Dearborn
GIRLS SWIMMING
Tuesday, Aug. 23
Dearborn at John Glenn
Saturday, Aug. 27
Stevenson at Skyline, no

Stevenson at Skyline, noo PREP FIELD HOCKEY PREP FIELD HUCKET Tuesday, Aug. 23 Ladywood at Skyline, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25 Chelsea at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26 Ladywood at Marian, 4:30 p.m. 2016 ALL-OBSERVER BASEBALL TEAM

Power-packed players dominate on the diamond

baseman was a beast at



the plate this past spring, as he cranked out a teamhigh eight while

eclipsing the .400 mark in batting average. Prohaska's outstanding campaign earned him a snot on the Michigan High School Coaches Associa tion's Division 1 "Dream Team

Brian Martin, John Glenn: Only a sophomore, Martin has already drawn the attention of



several Division 1 collegiate baseball programs with his advanced diamond

skills. A force at the plate, on the mound and at third base, Martin hit .413 with 45 hits, nine doubles, three triples and four home runs. The 10th-grader knocked in 41 runs and had a formidable slugging percentage of .633.

He earned every postseason honor imaginable, including first-team all-

Pitching-wise, the hard-throwing righthander was 5-5 with a 1.88 earned run average. He struck out 51 batters in 63 innings.

"Brian is an outstanding young man who carries a 4.0 grade-point average," said John Glenn coach Lawrence Scheffer. "Brian was our number one pitcher this season. He pitched in every big game for us and did a great job in the big games.
"He's only a sopho-

more and is three-pitch pitcher with a nasty slider. Brian has great mound presence and is a leader on and off the field. He needs to con tinue to work hard to get better as a pitcher.

"Brian was was our leader. He had a lot of clutch hits late in the games. He was the kid that everybody turned to. Brian has the potential to be an outstanding base ball player when it's all said and done. He is the hardest-working young man I've ever been

Chris Tanderys, Liv. Stevenson: Only a junior, Tanderys sparkled throughout the 2016 sea-



ing Division 1 sec ond-team All-State recog-nition. The left-hand-

son, earn-

raked his way to a .463 average with 28 RBI and four home runs. He was an all-district and all KLAA honoree as well.

ed-hitting shortstop

"Chris Tanderys put together a hitting plan in the off-season and he stuck to it, hitting .463 for the season," Stevenson coach Rick Berry-man said. "He also hit for power, with four home runs and numerous extra base hits!'

Alex Manasa, Farmington: A repeat member of the all-area first team, Manasa was instrumental



in the Falcons winning the White Division champi-

onship and finishing with

a 28-11 record.
As the leadoff batter, Manasa had 54 hits in 138 at-bats for a .391 average with just seven strike-outs. His hits included nine doubles, four triples and five homes runs

Despite being at the top of the order, Manasa still drove in 28 runs. He also had 19 walks and used his speed to steal 20 bases and score 56 runs.

The 6-foot-4 Manasa, who also excelled on the basketball team, can cover a lot of territory and is a solid defensive player in center field.

"Obviously, he's very skilled and a great talent," coach Pete Finn said. "He played with the confidence you have to have to play baseball at a high level, and that's why he'll be successful going forward."
"He got really enthusi-

astic about his team. I thought that was a great way for a leader to be He made it enjoyable for everybody to play the game, easy for everybody to come to the field every day.

Noah Spencer, Canton: Whether performing on the mound or at shortstop, consistently marked the senior co captain's efforts.





gave up 0.98 runs per contest, fanning 40 batters in 36 innings

while setting a Canton record with nine saves. His pitching was crucial to the Chiefs winning the KLAA South Division and going 28-12

for the year. The all-conference and all-district selection augmented that with a .325 batting average, and was named the Chiefs'

"Noah had an outstanding senior season setting the school record for saves," coach Mark Blomshield said. "He also pitched big in big games as a starter when he wasn't playing short-

stop."
Pete Carravallah, Plymouth: The Wildcats missed Carravallah's presence in the lineup



field for a month sprained but he

returned to spark the team to a strong finish and district championship.

The senior team cap-tain batted .495 to set a new Plymouth record, and was named team Carravallah nabbed

all-conference and all-district accolades for the second consecutive sea-

"Pete was instrumental at the top of our lineup providing a spark," coach Jason Crain said. "Pete battled some adversity this season, after badly spraining his ankle (but) he came back and didn't miss a beat

'Pete was an example of class and sportsman-ship on and off the field."

Alex Nicholson, Salem: The senior outfield er was one of the Rocks top all-around performers all season. Nich-



olson com-piled five home runs and 10 doubles among 49 hits, good

for a .412 average. The sure-handed cen-ter-fielder also was

named to the all-KLAA and all-district teams and earned team MVP honors for his efforts.

"Alex is a very hard worker who works to improve everyday," coach John Wright said. 'I really enjoyed coaching him the last two

David Vinsky, Harrison: Vinsky was a four-year starter in center field for the Hawks and will contin-



ute his playing career at Northwood University. A twotime all-

area selection, Vinsky set the school record for single-season hits last vear with 61. He batted 481 as a senior with 50 hits, which included 12 doubles, two triples and

four home runs Vinsky also had 31 RBIs and struck out just eight times in 104 at-bats. He walked 24 times, stole 20 bases and scored 31

runs. His slugging per-centage was .740. "David has broken every career extra-base and hit record in Harrison history," coach Do-minic Carino said.

"David brings to the field a passion to excel every day. He is known as being a legitimate hitter and does a great job of supporting that

"Everyone who knows David is excited for his

will have an impact right

Evan Claggett, Plymouth: Uber-athletic behind home plate, sen-ior catcher Claggett won



Plymouth's defensive MVP award while sporting an impres-sive .361

batting average (and .410 on-base percentage) Claggett, who earned

all-KLAA and all-district accolades, also ably guided a young pitching staff, helping them get accus-tomed to varsity base-"Evan is a two-year

varsity starter who anchored our defense as our catcher," Crain said. "He is a true workhorse and would catch every game if we let him.
"It was an honor to

have Evan in our pro-

gram. Kyle Wolter, Ply-mouth: The four-year varsity Wildcat got it done in all facets of the game again in 2016, tallying a 3-1 win, 1.91 ERA



and one save on the mound and batting .330 at the plate. In addi-

tion, Wolter was a defensive standout at shortstop and provided intangibles

such as leadership.
"Kyle won our Wildcat
Award which recognizes the player with significant contributions in sportsmanship, leader-ship, academics and on the field," Crain said.
"Kyle developed as one of the best leaders this program has seen."

The senior, who will play college baseball at Lawrence Technological University, was an allconference and all-district pick. For his career, he set the school record for being part of 74 varsi-

ty victories Mitch Zelenak, Canton: The division winning Chiefs had a big season and senior cocaptain Zelenak's stand



ing was one of the major reasons went 7-2. and regis-

out pitch-

tered a 1.67 earned run transitioning without a beat from closer to start-

He was rewarded for his efforts with his selection to the all-conference and all-district teams as well as receiving Can-ton's "Most Valuable Pitcher" award.. "Mitch did an out

standing job on the mound for the Chiefs, not allowed an earned run in

his first 24 innings this season," Blomshield said. "Mitch's ability to drop down and give hitters a different look from a sidearm slot was an invaluable asset for the team this season.

ton: Carty was a four year varsity player for the Falcons and a key



their 2016 league championship In addi-

stop, Carty took a regular turn in the pitching rota-tion. He threw a complete game in the titleclinching win over Harri-son, allowing three hits and striking out seven. He was solid at the

tempts and just eight strikeouts.

ing around, drawing 24 walks, stealing 10 bases and scoring 39 runs.

"Dan has a tremen-dous attitude and work ethic," Finn said. "He set a great example every day. He was always willing to doing what was best for the team, which is the mark of a good

'I'd say, 'Dan, how do you feel about playing some second base instead of shortstop.' He said: 'I'll do whatever is good for the team, coach.' I thought it was in his best interest to get a few looks at second because I thought that's where

Jared Char, Harrison: Char was another four-year starter for the Hawks and a versatile player. He moved from shortstop to catcher for his senior season and

> leadoff batter, Char hit .407 with had only four

He also walked 22 times, stole a team-high 35 bases and scored 33 runs.

witness Jared's realization for his love of baseball again," Carino said. "Going into the season, he was all but set on hanging up the cleats, but his success on the field and the atmosphere we're working to create in the program helped to rekindle that passion.

'Jared is a leader on

Pete Carravallah, sr., Plymouth
Alex Nicholson, sr., Salem
David Vinsky, sr, Harrison
Evan Claggett, sr., Plymouth
Kyle Wolter, sr., Plymouth
Mitch Zelenak, sr, Canton
Dan Carry, sr., Farmington
Jared Char, sr., Harrison
Vinnie Bakerian, sr., Garden City
Mark Pettersson, ir. Stevenson
SECOND TEAM
Griffin Shiminski, sr., Salem
Josh Slater, sr., Ply. Christian
Mitch Kubiak, sr., Clarenceville
Arite Bentley, Ir., Farmington
Jordan Williams, sr., turk, Westland
Kolby Dewkhist, Ir., Fanklin
Tyler Kelly, sr., Garden City
Justin Mattson, Ir., Canton
Frank Carlin, sr., Stevenson
Jacob MacBrien, Ir., Plymouth
Jimmy Doig, sr., N. Farmington
Stephen Satterfield, ir., Farmington
Jake Giacobbi, Ir., Franklin
HONORABLE MENTION

2016 ALL-OBSERVER BASEBALL TEAM Ryan Prohaska, sr., Franklin Brian Martin, soph., John Glen Chris Tanders, jr., Fstewnson Neak Manasa, sr., Farmington Noah Spencer, sr., Canton Pete Carravallah, sr., Pymouth Alex Nicholson, sr., Salem David Vinsky sr. Harrison

Dan Carty, Farmingmember of



being the starting short-

plate, batting .383 with 46 hits in 120 official at-

Carty also knocked in 29 runs. He was good at getting on base and mov-

captain."

most schools might play him."

filled a defensive need. As the



44 hits and

strikeouts in 108 at-bats. Char, who will attend

the University of Michigan, is among the career leaders in on-base percentage, hits, stolen bas es, runs scored and ratio of strikeouts to at-bats "It was a pleasure to

defense as he can play

River Jurek, Aaron Pych, Andrew Wicker, Stephen Hegenauer, Wayne Memorial: Devin Puckett; Red-ford Union: Tommie Lewis, Jackso Allison, Nick Laidler, Jacko Gagnon; Redford Thurston: Donald Permuy, Chalfaontae Phillips, Austin Benoit. any position in the out-field and infield. He has an athleticism that is

rarely seen behind the

plate, which makes him

an exceptional catcher.

Jake Giacobbi, jr. Franklin
HONDRABLE MENTION
Canton: Mike Flaishans, Nick
Sprosek, Lou Baechle, Jake O'Donnell;
Plymouth: Regan Fleisher, Evan
Good, Josh Janovsky, Mike Matovina,
Brenden Lacorato, Chase Every;
Salem: Sean McCormack, Matt
Brooks, Jake Seipenko; Ply. Christiam: Matt Cusumano, Al Greuber,
Phillip Morby, Nick Andres; Farmington: Jordan Hoke, Collin Finn,
Eliott Edsall, Harrison: Tommy
Williams, Brian Janijain; N. Farmington: Jake Darden, Josh
Goldberg, Will Buraconak; Clarmington: Bobby Jaber, Nick Bisaro,
Kameron Maciver; Franklin: Joe
Chinavare, Adrian Reed, Kolby
Dewhirst, Jon Monite, Stevenson:
Gordon Ferguson, Danny Morris,
Branden Posky, Luth. Westland:
Brent Croft Drake Snyder; John
Glenn: Kyle Richards, Jordan Fuchs,
River Turek, Aaron Pych, Andrew
Wicker, Stephen Hegenauer, Wayne
Memoralizi Dewin Purkett Red-

Vinnie Bakerian Garden City: Bakerian was a catalyst in the Cougars' ultra-successful season,



included a Division 1 district championship. Bound for Adrian College, the sen-ior captain hit over .400

which

with an on-base percentage that exceeded .500. A No. 3 hitter and exceptional defensive player, Bakerian was a rare three-sport athlete at GC, where he also excelled on the basketball and soccer teams

Mark Pettersson, Liv. Stevenson: Pettersson thrived this past spring, earning all-district and all-KLAA honors. The rangy



infielder terrorized pitchers to a .390 bat-

age and nine doubles. 'Mark Pettersson worked extremely hard in the off-season to improve and it showed in his improved hitting and fielding," said Berryman.

Lakes Intercity champions



The 18-year-under South Farmington Gamecocks won the Lakes Intercity League baseball championship, defeating Lakes Olari of Commerce in the final game July 28 at Oakland University, 9-5. It's the first championship for a South Farmington team in more than 10 years in the open-house league. Any player can join and enjoy the experience of travel ball. South Farmington also sponsors 16U and 19U teams. The Gamecocks competed in a 16-game season against 12 other Intercity teams. The team members are (kneeling, left to right) Dalton Korczyk, Jacob Brewer, Joshua Lewis, Sebastian Abate, Collin Dziadzio, Joey Donovan, Mark DeMartini, (standing, left to right) coach Jake Korczyk, Avery Nadon, Langston Beamer, Paul Husak, Lawrence Beamer, Gage Brent and manager Thom Brent. Not pictured are Benjamin Goshorn, Cortez Reinhardt, Jordan Wutka and Patrick Abraham.

PREP SOCCER PREVIEW

Chargers to rely heavily on sophomore class

Churchill ready to do battle in rugged KLAA South

Ed Wright

A talented group of sophomores will be stepping into the spotlight this fall for the Livonia Churchill boys soccer

Coming off a solid 10-7-2 season in 2015, the Chargers will feature a blend of youth and experience as they pre-pare to go toe-to-toe with strong divi-sional foes Canton, Plymouth and cross-town rival Livonia Franklin.

"We have eight seniors on our roster, but the bulk of the minutes will be filled by sophomores," fifth-year head coach Matt Grodzicki said. "We're very young, but I've encouraged by the way the sophomores have stepped up during the sophomores have stepped up during our four scrimmages.

"We're not as deep as other teams when it comes to the number of people who try out, so we don't have the luxury who try out; so we uon't have the taking of keeping a lot of the young guys on the JV for a couple years. We have to throw them into the mix right away because we're not one of the programs that draws 80 to 90 kids. We're usually around 40 or 50."

The Chargers will be led — in more



Churchill's Diego Robles gets a step on a Stevenson player during the latter part of Thursday's

ways than one - by senior co-captains Michael Lubonja and Devin McCulley. Lubonja is a rangy goalkeeper and McCulley is a game-changing catalyst from the mid-field.

eason scrimmage at Bicentennial Park in Livonia

"In Devin we have a player who has a lot of experience playing at a high club level with the Wolves," Grodzicki

said. "He has the experience now, so he's kind of taken ownership of the team. It's his team in the mid-field. He gets to play with his brother, too, (sophomore Logan McCulley), so that will be

a neat experience for both of them.
"I love the way this team gets
along," McCulley said. "There are no

conflicts; we have great chemistry."

A player who can demoralize an opponent with a slick pass or a quick goal, McCulley gains as much satis-faction from assists as he does from

'I like moving the ball around the field, getting everybody involved," he said. "When I do keep it, I feel I can put

high pressure on defenses."
Grodzicki was impressed by how Lubonja upgraded his conditioning since last season.

"He really worked hard to get in great shape," Grodzicki said. "He was a back-up last season, but he stepped up his conditioning, knowing he'd be the guy this year. We're going to relying on him a lot this season."

The return of senior Uthman Baba-tunde ensures that the Chargers' of-

"Uthman is going to be a load up top for us," predicted Grodzicki, who also mentioned Anthony Paul as a player with potent offensive skills. Churchill's talent-rich mid-field will

be spearheaded by McCulley and Sam Marasco.

The defense will be anchored by junior Meritan Jusufi.

The Chargers open their season Monday at Northville.

Thunder makes noise in Holland



The 16U Livonia City Thunder tournament baseball team captured the title at the Storm Summer Classic in Holland earlier this summer. The Thunder went undefeated and defeated the Lakeshore Storm, 3-1, in the semifinal contest before waxing Velocity 16U, 11-3, in the title tilt. The championship game was tight until the Thunder unloaded on Velocity with a seven-run seventh inning. Pictured are (back row from left) coach Claude Bergeron, Marc Bergeron, Dillon Champagne, Parker Graham, Carl Clapp, coach Dave Kubeshesky, Connor Jakacki, Joe Kubeshesky, coach Joe Jakacki, (front row from left) Carlos Beltran, Craig Jakacki, Connor Beck and Ryan Pishalski.

RISTOLA

Continued from Page B1

made sure he was still part of the team because they knew he needed that. They threatened to come to the house and get him if he missed one practice."

When Ristola was in seventh grade at Holmes Middle School, she hammered home her plans to play football to DeFillippo, who was her physical education teacher.

"I'd pester Flip, telling him, 'Hey, I'm going to play football'," she re-counted, smiling. "He was like, 'We'll see in two years. We'll see what hap-

When the first day of freshman foot-ball rolled around in the summer of 2014, there was Ristola, ready to fulfill

her pledge.
"I'll admit it: The first day of two-adays my freshman year I thought to myself, 'What am I getting myself into?' This is crazy," Ristola recalled. "But then I reminded myself that I was doing this for my brother."

The reception offered by Ristola's

"We're been like one big, happy fam-ily since the first day," she said. "They treat me like I'm their sister. The first day, my teammates would come up to me and say, 'Hey, Katherine. How ya'

Ristola's parents had mixed emotions about her daring venture into

waters that few females enter.

"My mom was super-excited when I told her," Ristola said. "My dad was the one who told me I'd better be careful and not get hurt."

Among Ristola's pre-varsity highlights are a 20-yard field goal (she has split the uprights from 45 yards out at

practice) and a number of receptions.

"I'm an 'X' receiver, so I don't get a lot of passes thrown to me," she said. "But when the ball has been thrown to

me, I've caught it." In the other sport most of the world refers to as football, Ristola played well as a sophomore in her handful of starts

as a sopnomore in her handful of starts at goal-keeper for Churchill's varisty soccer team. She also played several games as a defensive mid-fielder.

There have been days — one earlier this week — when her two favorite sports combine to make her day busy and exhausting.

and exhausting.
"On Monday, I had football practice until 3 p.m. and then soccer at 4 in Farmington," she said, smiling. "When this happens, I pack two bags in the morn-ing — one with my football stuff and one with my soccer stuff. I make it

Ristola said she'd love to play a sport in college. She was recently invited to an elite soccer camp at Grand Valley State University, a school that is defi-

nitely on her post-high school radar. Ristola is a 4.1 student with a passion

ewright@hometownlife.com

SPORTS ROUNDUP

St. Edith soccer

The St. Edith athletics CYO fall sports programs are accepting registrations for the upcoming fall

The programs are for girls and boys entering grades 4-8 who are members of the following Catholic parishes: St. Edith, St. Colette, St. Kenneth and St. Aidan.

The season runs from the second weekend in September until mid-October.
Sports offered are soccer (boys

and girls), girls volleyball, girls cheerleading, and boys football.

To register, visit stedithcyo.com, click on the home tab, then the

sports registration link and follow the prompts.

Another offering is the little Eagles freshman soccer program for boys and girls entering kin-dergarten through third grades This will be held on Saturday mornings for six weeks, with the first session set for Sept. 10. Each session will consist of a practice and a game. Register for this program at stedithcyo.com.

All soccer practices and home games will be at Ladywood High School. Volleyball practices and home games will be at the St. Edith School gym. Cheerleading practices are the St. Edith school gym. Football practices will be held at Riley School.

For more information onthese programs, contact Rich Field at 248-914-8620 or stedithsoc-

St. Thomas the Apostle sports

St. Thomas the Apostle is looking to continue a CYO athletic program at the parish level. The nearby Catholic parishes whose children who attend grade 3-8 that would fall who attend grade 3-6 that would far into the category of being eligible to play sports for St. Thomas the Apostle would include: St. Richard, Sts. Simon and Jude, and St. Mary

and Cause of Our Joy.
St. Thomas the Apostle as a CYO program would follow in the steps of the St. Raphael program that was involved in the CYO for the last five

Sports offered would most likely sports offered would most fikely include volleyball in the fall for girls, basketball and possibly bowling for both boys and girls in the winter, and softball and baseball in the spring.

If interested, email athletic di-rector Dan Wickett at wickettd@yahoo.com.

GC Gladiator tryouts

Tryouts for the 12U Garden City Gladiators baseball team will be held Saturday, Aug. 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Nankin Mills Field B, which is located on Hines Drive just south of Ann Arbor Trail.

There is no fee to tryout. The team, which is going to Cooperstown in 2017, will play in eight to 10 tournaments.

Costs are fundraiser driven. It is a family-oriented team that has two spots available. The team works out during the winter in Garden City.

For more information, email gladiators@gardencitygladia



Franklin's Dom Pelle looked strong in the mid-field during Thursday's scrimmage at Edsel

GOLF

Continued from Page B1

Rounding out the top five spots in the first flight were Alethea VanGorp (100), Yvette Gagnon (103) and Plymouth's Barbara Coury, who carded a

Denise Buechel's adjusted score of 79 earned her the first flight's net championship as she finished one shot ahead of Courv.

Also competing in the championship flight were Janina Jacobs (91), Lauri Ponikiewski (92), Sue Dorr (93), Cynthia Pinkard (93), Mary Warnick (95), Shelly Manning (95) and Deb Horning

Rounding out the first flight field were Sherilyn Smith (106), Shirley Lewis (107), Renee Walker (108), Lu Stock ton (108), Becky Tenerowicz (110) and Pat Shelton (135).

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Livonia Franklin graduate Kendall Payn is headed to the University of Detroit Mercy

PATRIOTS Continued from Page B1

long-time Livonia-area soccer coach whose resume includes coaching jobs at Schoolcraft College (where he

played) and Livonia Churchill. "We're athletic, which allows us to push up a lot and we have two outstanding goal keepers."

Tri-captains Trevor Hayes, Nick McNabb and David Shoemaker will be in charge of the leadership category,

"All three captains are defenders. which is kind of unique," Bona said.
"They're all very likeable and they have great leadership skills. They bring outstanding organization to the

Looking to fill the void left by graduated keeper Ryan Prohaska will be junior Zack Robinson and sophomore Scott Beebe — both of whom are capable of being the go-to guy, Bona said.

"The No. 1 spot is still up for grabs between them," Bona revealed. "They'll share it until someone steps forward."

Anchoring the Patriots' midfield will be seniors Dom Pelle and Austin Corona, both of whom excel at transitioning the ball in the middle-third of

Scoring-wise, the Patriots will rely on returning forward Matt Conley and former junior-varsity standouts Josh Wilson and Tyler Piper.

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Unity churches plan day of prayer

Sharon Dargay

The Rev. Florence Ernzen is looking forward to a "magical" evening of prayer on Sept. 8.

She and other mem-bers of Friends of Unity Plymouth will observe Unity's 23rd Annual World Day of Prayer with music, meditation and the theme "Discover the Power Within - Unleash Your Divine Poten-

tial."
"We're very fond of the music we use at Friends of Unity because we use the music by the

emPower Music artists. It's a group of fabulous professional singer-songwriters. They write mu-sic that is uniting and healing, and it bridges some of the barriers people feel and experi-ence," Ernzen said. Four singers from the congregation and an accompanist will perform the emPower songs.

"We'll have a wonder-ful meditation opportunity for people to write out prayer requests. We'll send those on to Silent Unity, which will pray for those requests the next 30 days.

The prayer service will start at 7 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC), 774 N. Sheldon

in Plymouth. Unity of Livonia also will celebrate World Day of Prayer with a service at 6 p.m., at the church, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia. The Rev. Eileen Patra will deliver a message based on the theme, and prayer chaplains will conduct the service. Chaplains also will be available at 5 p.m. for one-on-one personal prayer.

Global observance

World Day of Prayer is a 24-hour prayer event held the second Thursday in September by Unity churches and Silent Unity, an interna-tional 24/7 prayer minis-try. Several events at Unity Village in Missouri will be live streamed including the opening keynote address by the Rev. Sylivia Sunter, at 7 p.m., Sept. 7; a Daily Word service with Michelle Robin at 8:30 a.m. and Silent Unity prayer service at 11 a.m. , both on Sept. 8; and the closing

ceremony with a musical performance by Daniel Nahmod at 7 p.m., Sept. 8. Visit unity.org and click on World Day of Prayer. Visitors to the page also can light a virtual candle.

Ernzen said her local

service may include music videos in addition to live music and prayer.

"It's a multi-sensory approach with music, video, meditation and quiet time to write out prayer requests. Every one is welcome. You might like to have place to pray for world peace or peace in your heart."

Visitors to Unity of Livonia will have an op portunity to walk the church's outdoor laby rinth by candlelight after the prayer service.

Prayer request forms will be available at the church and names for prayer also may be sub-mitted online at worlddayofprayer.org.

Patra said the annual event extends an opportunity to "come together in celebration of our oneness with God, each other, and the world."

sdargay@hometownlife.com

PASSINO

JACQUE HAROLD September
4, 1920 – August 13, 2016 of
Sarasota, Florida, formerly of
Pine Knoll Shores NC, Orchard
Lake, Birmigham, Michigan
and Toledo, Ohio. Jacque
served as a Lt. Major in the
Army Air Corps during World
War II where he met his wife of
nearly seventy years, Floranne
(nee Henderson) who was
serving in the American Red
Cross. Returning to Toledo
after the war, Jacque married
Floranne and completed his
engineering degree at the

Vlew Online

www.hometownllfe.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

AUGUST CONCERT

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Aug. 25-26 Location: Trinity Episcopa Church, 26880 La Muera, Farminaton Hills

Details: Trinity and Friends choir presents "Let's Go To The Movies." Tickets are \$12

Contact: trinityinthewoods.org **GRIEFSHARE**

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21-Nov. 6

Location: New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Grief support group provides help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Cost is \$20 and includes workbook

Contact: 248-766-5977

PRAISE AND WORSHIP Time/Date: 6 p.m., Sunday, Aug

Location: Open Arms Church, Details: The Beatenbos, Gospel Music Hall of Famers, will minis

Contact: 734-471-5282

T-SHIRT COLLECTION

Time/Date: Through Sept. 15 Location: Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia Details: The church is collecting T-shirts in bright colors for adults and youngsters in Zimbabwe. Helping Hands, Touching Hearts, a Farmington Hills-based charity, will send the donations to Africa next month. A donation box is accessible 24/7 and is stationed at the church's front door

Contact: kenwoodchurch.org **WORSHIP IN THE PARK**

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, through Aug. 21

Location: Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse grounds, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads,

Details: St. Michael Lutheran Church holds outdoor services with childcare provided Contact: 734-459-3333, connectingwithGod.org

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY GALA

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Saturday,

Location: St. Nicholas Event Center, 760 Wattles, Troy

Details: Gala celebrates Bloom field Hills-based Manresa Jesuit Retreat House's 90th anniversa ry. The Rev. Leo Cachat will celebrate Mass. Hors d'oeuvres dinner, silent auction and danc-ing will follow. Marie Osborne of WJR 760 AM radio will emcee.

Tickets are \$100 and \$20 Contact: 248-644-4933; manresa.si.org

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: Thursdays 9:30-11:30 .m., Thursday, from Sept. 8-May

Church 2855 Wiltshire, Berkley **Details:** This 30-week, in-depth, inter-denominational study of Romans is for women. Children's program also is available for youngsters through kindergar ten. Register at 248-885-5718 Contact: birminghamberkley.cbsclass.org

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Monday, beginning Sept. 19

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Grief support group will meet for 13 sessions. Each week participants will watch a video seminar featuring experts on grief and recovery subjects, and vill spend time in discussion Workbooks will be available for personal study of the grieving process. Register at christoursa vior.org

734-522-6830 or Mike McGrath at 248-505-8894

RUMMAGE SALE Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Thursday,

Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday,

Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, South-

Details: Specialty boutique, house wares / household, electronics, toys, books, home decor, linens, shoes, clothing for baby, kids, teens, adults, furniture, sporting goods and more. Grand opening with 20 percent mark up is Sept. 14. Bag sale is Sept. 17 Contact: 248-477-1410

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday Location: 5075 W. Maple, West

Details: "Drop In & Learn," which runs year-round, features lectures on DVD on Jewish history, culture, philosophy, and related topics, followed by brief informal discussion. No charge, no reservations required

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancyellen879@att.net

Our Lady of Loretto Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m

Monday **Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000 St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Contact: 734-261-1455, ext 200

or on line at www.livoniastmichael.org.

Faith Community Wesleyan Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every

Saturday Location: 14560 Merriman,

Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

r. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m Wednesday

Location: 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford Township Details: An informal and ongo ing study of the Orthodox faith and life. RSVP to Subdeacon Joshua Genig at joshua.ge-nig@gmail.com or 630-936-6386

Contact: facebook.com/stinnocenredford

EXERCISE Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile,

Details: Instructor Wendy practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more in formation, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364 **FAMILY MEAL**

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills Details: Free meal Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month

Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church. Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey

Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran

Tîme/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners Contact: Ethanie Defoe at

248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463 **Dunning Park Bible Chapel**

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thurs-

Location: Parish office, 15089

Newburgh, Livonia **Details:** Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows Contact: Parish office at 734-

464-1223 Contact: 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon Details: Praying silently or aloud

together; prayer requests wel-comed. Contact: 734-459-3333 for

RISEN CHRIST **LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Sat-urday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church. Contact: Lynn Hapman at

SINGLES

Recycling

Detroit World Outreach Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday Location: 23800 W. Chicago

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those vho are divorced or separated Contact: The facilitator at

313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org Steve's Family Restaurant Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399 SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Location: 29667 Wentworth

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding

Older Americans Act. Contact: 734-261-9000: www.woodhaven-retire ment.com

available from TSA, AAA 1-C

Connection Church Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton **Details:** Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child

care is available for free

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change. O'CONNOR



Passages

Oblituaries, Memories & Rememberances

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

Brighton, MI passed away August 18, 2016. He was born and raised in Hamilton, Ontario a son of John and Mary (Hurley) O'Connor on June 14, 1927. He was a graduate of the University of Toronto with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He and his wife Margaret moved to Detroit. MI in 1956 and then moved to Livonia, MI. in 1960. Leo worked for Ford Motor Co. for 30 years. He received his Master's Degree in Engineering from Wayne State University. Leo is survived by five of his children: Helen (Roy) Herbst, Nancy O'Connor, Steve (Nancy) O'Connor, Mary Lou (Mark) Miller, and Shelia O'Connor, 9 grandchildren: Trevor and Tyler Herbst, Shaina (Ben) Kastler and Lauren O'Connor, Scott, Peter and Andrew O'Connor, Mart and Andrea Miller. His brother, Ray, sister in law Therese, and several other in laws also survive. Leo was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years. Margaret (Scharbach), his son Patrick, and two sisters and six brothers. Visitation will be held on Monday, August 22, 2016 from 3:00 – 8:00 P.M. at the Keehn Funeral Home, Brighton. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Brighton. Friends may visit at the funeral home. Please visit Leo's Book of Memories at



LOIS passed away peacefully in the familiarity and comfort of her own home in Livonia, Michigan on July 28, 2016 at 97 years of age. She was preceded in death by her Michigan of July 28, 2016 at 97 years of age. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Jack and her cherished grandson Logan. Lois is survived by her daughter Carol, son Jim, daughter-in-law Lori and grandson Jonathan. She was born in Oak Harbor, Ohio, the daughter of Rose Miller Jordan and Frederick Jordan. She attended the University of Toledo and was a long-time secretary in the East Lansing and Livonia public school systems. Lois was a devoted wife, mother, grandmorther and friend who was always there for her family. Her grandsons adored and cherished her. Lois was their biggest fan and was always interested in what they enjoyed. Early on, she was an expert on sharks and dinosaurs. Over the years, she graduated to track and field, thru-hiking, craft beers, and digital modelling. Her steadfast love and support was a source of strength and reassurance for her entire family. She retained a keen interest all of her life in nature, world events, politics and anything her family cared about. Lois's intellect, curiosity, and unfailing memory was an inspiration to those who knew her. She enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, spending time in nature, bird watching, gardening, enjoying the view from her back porch, and spending time with her family will hold a private memorial service. will hold a private memorial

EDWARD PAUL passed away on July 26, 2016 in Livonia, Michigan, age 97. Born October 22, 1918 to John and Mary (Overmeir) Elsner in Ewen, Mi, the youngest of 15 children. Moving to Detroit during WWII, he met Myrtle Lee Crow. They were married June 24, 1944 in Detroit and recently celebrated their 72nd Anniversary. She died July 4, 2016. He had been a resident of Livonia for over 50 years. He owned Elsner & Sons, Inc. Carpenter Contractors, retiring in 1987. He was a member of the Plymouth Elks. Coming to Detroit from the U.P., his love of outdoors, fishing and hunting lasted his entire life. Survivors: three children, Barbara Mieras, Robert (Marcia) Elsner, and Gene Elsner; seven grandchildren; Jack (Maya) Donnelly, Colleen (Mark) Maire, Matthew (Jennifer) Mieras, Michael Elsner and (Bethany Allen), Elizabeth (Kurosh) Nahavandi, Brian Elsner, Kevin Elsner; Grandchildren; Casey Donnelly, Virginia and Edward Mieras, Aria and Cyrus Nahavandi; stepgrandchaughter, Dawn Mieras and her son Jaxson Symes. Preceded in death by his wife, parents, brothers: John, Frank, Alex, Michael, James, Josephine Elsner, Agnes Lorendo, Evelyn Smith, Catherine Murphy and Marjorie Moll. Memorial Gatherning was held July 30, 2016 for both Ed and Myrtle at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home Plymouth MI

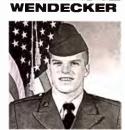
at Schrader-Howell I Home Plymouth, MI

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engineering degree at the University of Toledo. For several years he worked at Willys Motors, promoting the new Jeep in Latin America. Ford Motor Company recruited him to sell cars and he moved his young family to Birmingham, Michigan. Soon after joining Ford Motor Company, Passino took the opportunity of advancement in the area of racing and special promotions, quickly rising to Director of Special Vehicles, overseeing all aspects of Ford racing. Jacque pushed Ford into all forms of racing from road railies to NASCAR to Indianapolis to Le Mans, setting a winning streak that sold cars and built the budget to run and win more races. Jacque ended his journey with Ford in 1970 when Ford got out of racing. Jacque continued in the automotive field selling motor homes and auto safety equipment until his retirement at the age of 78. In addition to Floranne, Jacque (Pamela), Raiph (Peggy), Ann (Barry) and Andrew (Ann) as well as 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren who all share his passion for speed, water and vegetable gardening. Jacque requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Neighborhood Garden Coalition, 701 Woodward Heights, Ste 136, Ferndale, MI 48220.



GREGORY Age 53, of
Westland left this world with
his family at his side at the
VA Hospital in Ann Arbor on
August 14, 2016. He was
born in Detroit, Michigan
to Mary Ann and Robert J.
Wendecker. He graduated
from Churchill High School
in Livonia, Michigan in 1981.
He served in the U. S. Army
from 1983-1987. During
his military service, he was
awarded with the Army Service
Ribbon, Army Achievement
Medal, Good Conduct
Medal. Parachutist Badge,
Marksman Marksmanship
Badge Rifle M-16, and
Expert Marksmanship Badge
Grenade. Following his military
service, he worked as a
carpenter for several years.
He is survived by his beloved
sons Cody R. Wendecker and
Skylar R. Wendecker and
Skylar R. Wendecker and
Skylar R. Wendecker and his
grand-dog Hank; parents Mary
Ann and Robert J. Wendecker;
brothers Robert Wendecker
(Constance); sister Ann
Wendecker (David); nephews
and nieces Jason (Amanda),
Matthew, Phillip Andrew,
Caitlin, and Macy. A private
family memorial is planned.

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Morning routines can set you up for success

BY DEANNA HARTLEY CAREERBUILDER

aking up early and getting a head start on the day can be an uphill climb - but mornings don't always have to be so cumbersome. Some professionals stick to specific morning routines that help them get the most out of their workdays.

Here are some practical tips you can try to turn your morning around and set you up for a more productive day.

Wake up early. This can be difficult if you're not a morning person, but a lot of successful professionals wake up early to maximize their time. "An extra hour in the morning allows me to squeeze more into my day, especially while the office is still fairly empty," says Arsineh Ghazarian, co-founder and CEO of Zveil, a bridal veil design company and online retailer.

Get some exercise. One of the last things you may feel like doing when you wake up is working out, but some professionals swear by it.

Daisy Jing, founder of the beauty product line Banish, says she has found a way to make herself accountable and help her stick with her plan. "Book early morning fitness

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classes. I actually pay ahead of time — (for example,) I pay \$20 to book the 7 a.m. class, she says. "Once you invest in something - even \$20 - you are afraid to lose it. I have never missed a morning fitness class I've already paid for. It's my way of giving myself an artificial deadline so I don't waste time in the morning, go to sleep earlier the night before and accomplish more things throughout the day."

Get your daily dose of news. Paige Arnof-Fenn, founder and CEO of strategic marketing firm Mavens & Moguls, says she listens to NPR on the radio while getting ready for work so she can catch up on the latest news around the world.

Similarly, other professionals find it helpful to consume the news as part of their morning routines. "Upon getting to my office around 8:20 a.m., I spend 30 minutes reading news sites and business blogs to catch up with current developments and remove any temptation to be distracted later on," says Noel

McCann, a marketing analyst at HomeSuite, an online marketplace dedicated to short-term furnished rentals.

Strategize and organize your day. One way to get the good ideas flowing is to plan and strategize the rest of your day to be more efficient and productive.

"I am in the office every day usually by 7 a.m., so I am able to chart out my schedule for the day uninterrupted." says Lukas Krause, CEO of Real Property Management. "I prioritize the things I know

I have to get done based on our strategic objectives and key milestone dates, and then jump right into the day."

Check work email - or not. There are mixed feelings on whether you should check your work email before arriving at the office.

Some say it's a good practice because it helps avoid surprises. "The very first thing I do is check my work email inbox. This helps me plan for the upcoming workday, not to mention avoid surprises that could disrupt my productivity," McCann says.

On the other hand, there is a case for saving this task for later.

"No work-related emails first thing — the day will have plenty of opportunities for work," says Marty Fukuda, chief operating officer at N2 Publishing, a company that produces custom magazines. 'I prefer to ease into the day by catching up on news or sports while eating breakfast. It helps to minimize stress by taking a few moments just to relax first thing."

Deanna Hartley is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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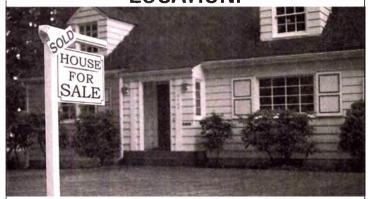
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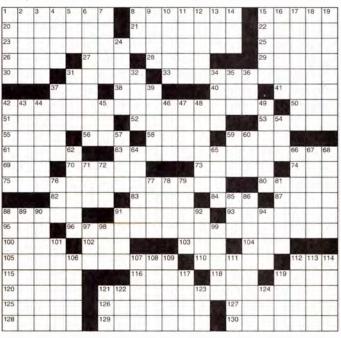
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For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzte Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

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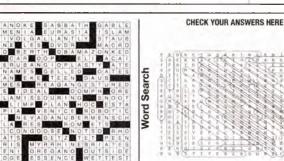
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They don't necessarily have to buy



one nameplate. Ford is actively pursuing what somewhat orgotten demographic cohort for auto makers:

Generation X. New research shows that the

with stickers starting at about \$45,000 versus the low \$30,000s for a standard version of the vehicle-has the highest percentage of Gen X buyers of any non-luxury SUV in the United States, reflecting what the company calls a generational preference "for exclusivity and performance at a great value.

The sporty version of Explorer delivers 365 horsepower versus about 275 for the standard version, and it has grabbed a significant 15 percent of total nameplate sales since its debut in 2014. Nearly 40 percent of Explorer Sport buyers were born between 1965 and 1978 compared with 23 percent of buyers of other midsize SUVs, Ford said.

These buyers "highly rate such attributes as 'power and pickup,' 'fun to drive' and 'overall performance,''' Omar Odeh, Ford Explorer marketing manager, told me. "The best part is



The Ford Explorer Sport is snagging lots of buyers in Generation X.

us, in that some don't even set out looking at the Ford brand.

GenXers might feel fortunate that the Ford brand is looking at them. Auto marketers demonstrate a lot of anxiety, of course, about what kind of customer the car-shunning, ridesharing Generation Y will become. And baby boomers still represent their most reliable cohort for luxury sales.

A simple glance at the numbers shows why it's easy for auto brands and most other marketers to overlook the GenX generation: Americans in that demographic, now ages 35 to 50, number only about 66 million compared with about 75 million each of baby boomers and millennials. And at this point, the boomer generation still retains the largest concentration of wealth, while Gen Y is setting the

But Generation X presents some compelling opportunities nonetheless. "Boomers felt the need to display their status in more obvious ways than Gen Xers do," according to Sheryl Connelly. Ford's manager of global trends and futuring. "While both groups are hugely important, automakers need to pay special attention to Gen Xers. Our Explorer Sport fits the profile of the successful member of Generation X."

Specifically, for instance, the US household income for a buyer of Explorer Sport is \$175,000 versus \$112,000 for the average midsize SUV buyer, revealed a study for Ford by MaritzCX. And those Explorer Sport customers who do trade in a vehicle are twice as likely as average midsize SUV buyers (12 percent versus 6

percent) to trade in a premium one.
"The reason they're so important," Odeh told me about GenX-ers, "is



Performance capabilities attract Gen) premium brands.

their peak earning power, the ones "Part of the reason is education that will be able to make the biggest levels: Gen Xers are highly educated decisions. And as they progress to and able to look at brands like Ford and where boomers are now, it's important realize that, for the same money, they're for us to maintain that loyalty and able to get more value, performance and styling without having to step up How are Gen X buyers different from boomers and millennials an extra \$10,000 to \$20,000."

In that regard, he explained, Explorer Sport is particularly attractive because "for about \$45,000, Generation X buyers can get a 365-horsepower SUV.

If they want anything like that in the premium segment, they'd have to pay close to \$65,000. They can get everything they want without having to compromise financially.

"And Explorer Sport delivers

nore on their sense of adventure More than previous generations. they want to go out and experience life—camping, spending time with their children outside—rather than just having something parked on their

driveway. They're more experiential. Moreover, Explorer and Ford's other SUVs. Edge and Escape, are dramatically more fuel-efficient than just a few years ago, especially those versions that feature EcoBoost engines. "Once you reach more than 20 MPG, most consumers are very comfortable with the fuel economy and in the mid- to upper-20s, they're extremely comfortable," Odeh said.

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